

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 8th March 1950.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI K. VENKATA-SWAMI NAYUDU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Disposal of a Government Motor Vehicle.

* 14 Q.—DR. V. K. JOHN (on behalf of Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao): Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state with reference to the main question No. 59 and the supplementary questions put on 26th November 1949 and subsequently to question No. 70-D answered on 23rd December 1949—

(a) whether it is a fact that the offer of the firm of Victor S. David and Company for the purchase of the motor vehicle MSC. 4768 was accepted on 22nd September 1949;

(b) whether the acceptance was withdrawn on 28th September 1949;

(c) what the circumstances are which led to this withdrawal;

(d) whether and why the Government decided to accept the offer of the Assistant Secretary, Public Department;

(e) whether the vehicle MSC. 4768 was made over to the Assistant Secretary before or after the 28th September 1949;

(f) whether the Government have satisfied themselves that the assessment of the value of the vehicle at Rs. 500 while it was later disposed of for Rs. 5,000 is a gross under-estimate;

(g) whether the motor vehicle was sold to Mr. A. E. Abraham or his son Mr. Philip Abraham;

(h) whether the advertisement for resale of MSC. 4768 was made by the elder or the younger Abraham;

(i) whether the resale has been effected at all; and

(j) whether such purchase and sale either by the Assistant Secretary or his son is not in contravention of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. Chief Minister):—“The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given on the floor of the House on 26th November 1949 and 23rd December 1949 for the supplementary questions on the main question of the hon. Member Sri B. Bhima Rao.”

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Sir, is it only a solitary instance; or are there similar other instances and, if so, have Government taken any action in respect of them? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ As far as I am aware, it is only a solitary instance.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Will Government investigate into the matter because I fear there may be several such instances; and if really there are similar other instances, it will not redound to our credit; so will the Hon. Minister investigate into the matter? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ If there are any other similar instances, certainly the hon. Member would have put questions on them. So I take it, this is only a solitary instance.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ I do not know anything about this instance except for the fact that it was published in the *Swatantra*, which I get regularly and read regularly.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ That paper would have given similar other instances, if there are any, and then the hon. Member would have put questions on them.”

Grant of certified copies of documents by the Revenue Department.

* 15 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have called for reports with reference to the answers to questions Nos. 20-A and 20-B answered on 17th November 1949 and subsequently to questions Nos. 70-A and 70-B answered on 23rd December 1949 and if so, whether they will lay the same on the table of the House; and

(b) whether the Government have issued instructions to the authorities concerned—

(1) to issue single copy stamps; and

(2) to grant certified copies of non-confidential documents by the Revenue Department without insisting on the production of certificates from civil courts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ (a) With reference to question 20-A, the report called for from the Collector of Bellary was received and the information furnished by him was embodied in the answer to the short notice question No. 70-A by the Hon. Member and answered on 23rd December 1949. As regards questions Nos. 20-B, 70-A and 70-B, the reports called for from the Collectors and the Board of Revenue have been received. They do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the reports on the table of the House.

“ (b) (1) Yes.

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(2) On a perusal of the replies from the Collectors, it is observed that no uniform practice is being followed in the districts. The Government have however under examination the question of issuing suitable general instructions in the matter."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, have instructions been issued now at least to the Collectors to direct the stamp-vendors to issue single copy stamps now at least? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Yes, instructions have been issued on the 4th March 1950 clarifying the position, and instructions have been issued to the Collectors to see that there is no hardship caused."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, what is the reason for the delay in issuing instructions so late as 4th March 1950 when the Hon. Minister stated on the 15th November last that there is no rule prohibiting issue of single copy stamps."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Because it took some time to receive the report from the Collectors and from the Board of Revenue, and there was certain unavoidable delay in it. Further, I have to remind the hon. Member that such things in Government take some time, and cannot be done as expeditiously as in private dealings."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, with regard to the grant of certified copies in Revenue Department except on a certificate from the civil court, may I ask Government to issue general instructions to Collectors that copies may be granted without any certificate being insisted on in the case of ordinary revenue records except those which are confidential and privileged? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" That matter has been examined by Government. From reports received from the Collectors, it is seen that there is no uniformity in it. Government propose to issue instructions very early to the various Collectors to see, as far as possible, that if the application is a bona fide one, to issue certified copies; and so far as the question of instructing judges in the matter, it has to be taken up with the High Court."

Audit Report of Co-operative Societies.

* 16 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the audit report as well as the statements of (1) receipts and charges; (2) assets and liabilities; and (3) profit and loss and trading account are printed and furnished to members of co-operative societies for their consideration before passing the accounts in the general body meetings held by the co-operative societies;

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(b) whether the audit defect sheets are also printed and circulated to the members before the general body meetings are held; and

(c) if not, whether the members are made aware of the said defects before they are called upon to pass accounts for the previous year?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“(a) Usually central banks, big urban banks and big non-credit societies append to the notices calling for the annual general body meetings (1) statements of receipts and charges, (2) assets and liabilities, (3) profit and loss account and trading accounts wherever necessary and (4) the annual reports of the boards of management. In rural societies, the dates of general meetings are announced generally by beat of tom-tom and the audit reports and the summary of defects are read at such general meetings.

“(b) & (c) The ‘Audit defect sheets’ known as ‘Summary of defects’ are not printed and circulated to the members before the general meetings are held. But they are read at the general meetings along with the audit certificates.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“Will the Hon. Minister issue instructions to see that these audit defect sheets may be placed on the table of the office for inspection for a week before the date of the general meeting, so that the members may know what defects were pointed out by the Audit department with regard to the accounts maintained by the co-operative societies?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“There are already instructions that these should be placed on the notice board.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“Has the Hon. Minister received representations from various societies in various districts to the effect that such audit defect sheets are not shown to the members at all, and they are not made aware of those defects before the passing of the accounts of the year?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“There may be some isolated cases. That is not a general rule. Whenever specific instances are brought to the notice of Government or Registrar, prompt action has been taken.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that these audit defect sheets are not read out in the general body meeting, unless some member, who is very particular about it insists upon the president reading it?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“If any specific instances are brought to the notice of Government, they will issue instructions; but, I think, there are already such instructions.”

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[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—PROCEDURE *RE* APPROPRIATION BILLS.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ Question time is over. The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi will now make a statement.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Sir, with regard to the point raised by Mr. Ibrahim the other day I wish to make the position clear to hon. Members. Last Monday Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim raised the question as to the procedure to be followed in connexion with the budget under the new constitution. I stated in that connexion that by virtue of an order issued by the President of India, the old procedure would be followed this year. The order issued by the President is entitled ‘ The Constitution (Removal of Difficulties) Order No. III ’ and was issued on the 26th January 1950. Among other provisions, this Order inserts a new article 390-A in the Constitution, which reads as follows :—

‘ If in respect of the said financial year (i.e. the financial year ending on the 31st of March 1950) further expenditure from revenues of a State specified in Part A of the First Schedule becomes necessary over and above the expenditure theretofore authorized for that year, the Governor of the State shall cause to be laid before the House or Houses of the Legislature of the State, a supplementary statement showing the estimated amount of that expenditure, and the provisions of Sections 78, 79 and 80 of the Government of India Act, 1935, shall subject to necessary modifications have effect in relation to that statement and that expenditure as they would have had effect in relation to the annual financial statement and expenditure mentioned therein if this Constitution had not come into force.’

“ It will be seen that this Order specifically covers the expenditure incurred or to be incurred before the 31st March 1950 and will apply to supplementary grants to be moved this year. It does not cover any action to be taken during this year in respect of appropriation of money for the next financial year, 1950–51. Accordingly with reference to the provisions of article 204 of the New Constitution, an Appropriation Bill will be introduced in the Legislature as soon as the grants have been made by the Legislative Assembly. This Bill which will be a money Bill will be introduced in the Legislative Assembly first on the 29th March 1950 and it is expected to be passed by the Assembly on the same day. The Bill will be only a formal one, as article 204 (2) of the New Constitution prohibits the proposal of amendments which will have the effect of varying the amount or altering the destination of any grant.

“ The Bill as passed by the Assembly will be introduced in the Legislative Council on the 30th March 1950 and it is expected to be passed the same day.

“ The assent of the Legislative Council will be conveyed to the Legislative Assembly on the 31st March 1950.

“ It is expected that His Excellency the Governor will be able to sign the Bill as passed by the Legislature also on the same day, 31st March 1950.

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

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"Therefore the statement that I made the other day is not quite correct and the Bill will come back to the Council on 30th March."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"We are obliged to you, Sir, as we will have a chance of discussion once again."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"I do not think so. We cannot change a comma or a fullstop."

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1950-51.

11-15
a.m.

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ఉపాధ్యక్షా, సంవత్సరమునకు ఒకసారి

ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ శాసన సభలో బడ్జెటును ప్రవేశపెట్టడం దానిపైన సభ్యులు తమ అభిప్రాయములను ప్రభుత్వమువారికి తెలియజేయడం, ప్రజలయొక్క అవసరములే మా ప్రభుత్వంవారి దృష్టికి లేవడం, సంవత్సరాంతమందు చూచినట్లయితే సభ్యులు చెప్పిన విషయములలో చాలావరకు పనులు జరుగకపోవడం జరుగుచున్నది. అయితే ఇప్పుడు మనకు సంపూర్ణ స్వాతంత్ర్యము వచ్చినది కనుక ఈ బడ్జెటుపై మాట్లాడిన విషయములపై ఇదివరకటివలె కాక ఎక్కువ శ్రద్ధ చూపుతారని ఆశిస్తున్నాను.

“ఈనాడు ప్రజా సామాన్యాన్ని కంట్రోల్లు విధానము అనేక యిబ్బందులకు గురి కావిస్తున్నది. ప్రతివారు వారికి కావలసినన్ని బియ్యము దొరుకక పాదశుడు తున్నారు. ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇప్పించే కొద్దిపాటి రేషన్ బియ్యము ఎవరికి సరిపోవు. ఈమధ్య ఆహార శాఖ మంత్రిగారు మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా వచ్చినపుడు మేము కొన్ని సలహాలు చేసియున్నాము. విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా కొంత జిల్లాలో ఒకటి. మా జిల్లాకు పక్కన ఉన్నటువంటి తూర్పు గోదావరి మొదలైన జిల్లాలు మిగులు జిల్లాలు కాబట్టి సమీపంగా ఉన్నటువంటి రెండు, మూడు జిల్లాలను కలసి ఒక Zone గా ఏర్పాటు చేసి ఒక జిల్లాలోనుంచి మరొక జిల్లాలోనికి ఆహార ధాన్యాలు తీసుకొనిపోవుటకు అంగీకరించినట్లు యితే మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలోని ప్రజలు ఇప్పుడు పడుచున్నట్లుగా యిబ్బందిపడవలసిన అవసరం ఉండదు. ఈ విషయముల నన్నింటిని మంత్రిగారికి తెలియజేసియున్నాము. వారు దానిపైన ఏ విధమైన చర్య తీసుకొనినట్లు కనపడదు. కంట్రోల్లు ఉంచాలా, తీసివెయ్యాలా అనే విషయము సెంట్రల్ గవర్నమెంటువారి యిష్టానుసారం జరుపవచ్చును. కాని మేము చెప్పిన విధముగా zonal system ను అమలు చేయడం మన ప్రభుత్వంవారి అధికారములకు లోబడినటువంటిదే. అయినప్పటికీ ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ విధంగా చేయుటకు సిద్ధపడలేనట్లు తెలుస్తోంది. బహుశః Civil Supplies వారి అభిప్రాయ ప్రకారంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు మా సలహాను అంగీకరింపక పోయియుండవచ్చును. Civil Supplies వారు అనేక కారణాలచేత కంట్రోల్లుగాని, రేషనింగుగాని తొలగించుటకు ఒప్పుకొనరు. ఇది అందరకు తెలిసినటువంటిదే. కాబట్టి ప్రజాభిప్రాయాన్ని గమనించి మా జిల్లా Food committee వారు కోరినట్లుగా విశాఖపట్టణం, తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లాలకు ఒక zone గా ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

“1947-48, 1948-49 వ సంవత్సరములలో 100 బస్తాల ధాన్యమునకు బియ్యం దిగుబడి 75 బస్తావరకు ఉండవలెనని mill owner లకు ఆర్డరు యిచ్చి యున్నారు కాని ఈ సంవత్సరం 100 బస్తాల ధాన్యానికి 69-70 బస్తాల బియ్యం దిగుబడి ఉండునట్లు చేయచున్నారు. కాని యీ ఆర్డరు mill owner లు సరిగా పాటించుటలేదు. ఇదివరలో వలెనే నూటికి 75 బస్తాల దిగుబడి తీయిస్తున్నారు.

8th March 1950] [Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao]

ఆంధ్ర 5, 6 బస్తాల బియ్యము మిల్లర్లకు ఎక్కువగా మిగులుతోంది. ఈ బియ్యాన్ని వారు బీకటి బజారు (black market) లో అమ్ముకొంటున్నారు. కాబట్టి ఎప్పటివరకే 75 బస్తాల దిగుబడి ఉంచి ఈ 5, 6 బస్తాల విలువకు సరిపోయినంతవరకు consumer లకు బియ్యం ధర తగ్గించవలసినదిగా కోరుతున్నాను.

“Bengalgram ను సరఫరాచేసే విషయంలో కూడా లోటుపాట్లు ఉన్నవని నా అభిప్రాయము. Bengal gram ను గవర్నమెంటువారే ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలనుంచి తెప్పిస్తున్నారు. కాని railway receipts ను wholesale వర్తకుల కిచ్చి వారిద్వారా retail dealer లకు, వారినుంచి consumer లకు అందేటట్లు చూస్తున్నారు. దీని వల్ల Bengal gram ధర ఎక్కువగా ఉన్నది. Wholesale dealer లు ఆసేటటు వంటి మధ్యవర్తులు అనవసరం. ప్రభుత్వవారికి godowns ఉన్నాయి. Bengal gram ను వారే తెప్పించి, వారి godowns లో నిలువచేసి, వారే retailers కు ఇప్పించినట్లయితే తక్కువ ధరకు ప్రజలకు సేవగలు, సేవగవచ్చు ఇవ్వవచ్చును. కాని ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆమలు చేస్తున్న పద్ధతివలన 83 రూపాయలకు కొన్న సేవగల బస్తా 80 రూపాయలకు అమ్ముతున్నారు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారే ఈ అమ్మకము చేయిస్తే consumer లకు తక్కువ ధరకు ఇవ్వవచ్చునని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“ప్రాక్యూర్ మెంటు విషయంలో కూడా చాలా అన్యాయాలు జరుగుచున్నాయి. ఈమధ్యన కోయంబత్తూరు జిల్లాలో procurement, levy పద్ధతిమీద చేయించు చున్నట్లు వేషర్లలో చదివినాము. ఆ పద్ధతినే మా జిల్లాలో కూడా ఆమలు చేయిస్తే మంచిది. అసలే, మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా కొరలే జిల్లా. దానికి తోడు ఈమధ్య సంభవించిన ఉప్పెనవల్ల చాలా ప్రాంతాలలో పంట నష్టపడింది. పంటలు పాడైపోయి రైతులకు తమ అవసరాలకు కూడా సరిపోయినంత ధాన్యము లేకపోయినప్పటికీ ఇంకను procurement చేయిస్తున్నారు. దీనివల్ల ప్రజలలో చాలా అసంతృప్తి ఏర్పడుతోందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. Procurement విషయంలో చిన్న చిన్న రైతులకు చాలా అన్యాయం జరుగుతోంది. Procurement ఉద్యోగులు స్వయంగా రైతులవద్ద మంచి ధాన్యాన్ని వసూలుచేయడం లేదు. ప్రతి గ్రామానికి ఒక పెత్తందారు అనే మొఖాసాదారు ఉంటాడు. ప్రతి గ్రామం నుంచి ఎంత ధాన్యము వసూలు కావాలో దానిని ఆ మొఖాసాదారును వసూలుచేయమని procurement ఉద్యోగులు అంటున్నారు. ఆ పెత్తందారు ఒక్కొక్క రైతు ఇంటింత ఇవ్వాలని చెప్పి వాళ్ళ దగ్గర నుంచి వసూలుచేసి విధేవిధంగా తాను ఇవ్వవలసిన కోటాకూడా ఇతర చిన్న చిన్న రైతులదగ్గరనుంచి వసూలుచేస్తున్నాడు. Procurement వల్ల చాడవడుతున్నది చిన్న రైతులే. అందుచేత ఇకముందైనను procurement ఉద్యోగులే స్వయంగా గ్రామాలకు వెళ్లి విడు రైతు ఎంతెంత ఇవ్వవలెనో అంతంత వరిదగ్గరనుంచి వసూలు చేయించే విధానాన్ని చేయించగోరుతాను.

“ఈమధ్యన సంభవించిన cyclone వల్ల మా జిల్లాలో అనేక చెరువులయొక్క గట్టు తెగిపోయి చాలా నష్టం కలిగింది. ముఖ్యంగా కౌరదా నదివరదలవల్ల చాలా భూములు మేటలు వేసుకొనిపోయినాయి. గౌ|| ధర్మవల్లంగారు, గౌ|| అర్జున శాఖా మాత్యులకూడా ఆ ప్రాంతాల నన్నింటిని స్వయంగా వచ్చి చూచినాడు. ఈ చెరువులయొక్క, ఇతర జలాశయములయొక్క మరమ్మతులు వెంటనే చేయించవలెను. ఇంతేకాకుండా జమీందారీ ప్రాంతాలలో ఉన్న అనేక చెరువులకూడా పాడైపోయినవి. ఈ మరమ్మతు లన్నీ చేయిస్తేనేగాని వచ్చే సంవత్సరమైనా సరిగా పంటలు పండవు. ఈ నాలుగు, అయిదు నెలలనుంచి విశేషంగా మరమ్మతులు జరుగుతున్నట్లు

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లేదు. మంత్రిగారికి ఈ విషయమై మనచేస్తే ఇంకా ఎస్టిమేట్లు రాలేదని, ఎస్టిమేట్లు వచ్చిన తరువాత మరమ్మతులు ప్రారంభిస్తామని చెప్పినారు. ఎప్పటికీ ఎస్టిమేట్లు తయారవుతాయో, ఎప్పుడు ఈ మరమ్మతులు చేస్తారో తెలియదు. ఇప్పుడు వసులు జరుగుతున్న విధంగా అయినట్లయితే ఇంకొక సంవత్సరానికి కాని ఎస్టిమేట్లు కాగితాలు పూర్తికావని నా నమ్మకము. ఈ చిన్న చిన్న వసులైనను తొలకరికి ముందుగా చేయకపోయినట్లయితే పంటలు వండే కొద్దిపాటి అవకాశంకూడా ఉండదు. కాబట్టి ఇప్పుడైనను శ్రద్ధతోనుకొని చెరువులను మరమ్మతు చేయించవలసినదని నా మనవి.

“హరిజనాభివృద్ధికిగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు హరిజనులకు ఇంట్లు కట్టుకొనుటకుగాను స్థలములను ఇప్పించుట హరిజన బాలురకు ఉచితముగా విద్య నేర్పించడం, వారికి hostels సౌకర్యము కలుగజేయడం అధీనందింపఁగల విషయం. హరిజన బాలురకు ఉచిత విద్యాభ్యాసము S.S.L.C. వరకుమాత్రమే విస్తరించిననాని, Law Collegeలో చదువుకొనే హరిజన విద్యార్థులకు అటువంటి సౌకర్యము ఇంతవరకు కలుగజేయలేదని మా Andhra University లో చదువుకొనుచున్న కొంతమంది హరిజన విద్యార్థులు మాతో మనవిచేసినారు. ఏ చదువు చదువుకొనుచున్నను హరిజనులకు ఉచిత విద్యాభ్యాస సౌకర్యాలను కలుగజేయవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Law College లో చదువు కొనుచున్న హరిజనులకుకూడ ఉచిత విద్యా సౌకర్యము కలిగించినాము.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO:—“ఈ అవకాశము హరిజన బాలురకు ఇచ్చినట్లైతే సంతోషమే. బహుశః ఆ విద్యార్థులు మాతో చెప్పుకొనిన దరిమిలాను ఈ సౌకర్యము ప్రభుత్వమువారు కలుగజేసియుండవచ్చును.

“హరిజనులు నివసించేటటువంటివి సాధారణంగా పూరి గుడిసెలు. ఈ మధ్యన వచ్చిన తుపాను గాలివలన చాలా ఇల్లు పాడైపోయినవి. ముఖ్యంగా మా విశాఖపట్టణం మునిసిపాలిటీలో నివసించేటటువంటి హరిజనులు చాలా నష్టపడినారు. వారి ఇల్లు గాలికి పడిపోయినవి. అటువంటివారికి గృహ వసతులు కలుగజేయాలి. ఇందుకు గాను మా విశాఖపట్టణం మునిసిపాలిటీకి అప్పు ఇవ్వవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను.

“కొంతమంది గౌరవ సభ్యులు మద్యపాన నిషేధము సరిగా అమలుకావటం లేదని అంటున్నారు. Prohibition ఒక గొప్ప ఆశయము. ఇది చాలామందిచేదని నా నమ్మకము. మద్యపాన నిషేధంవలన చాలా వేద కుటుంబాల ప్రజలు సంతోషిస్తున్నారు. ఈ సస్సరణవల్ల బాధపడుతున్నవారు భాగ్యవంతులే కాని, బీదవారు కాదని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఇదివరలో చాలా బీదస్థితిలో ఉన్నటువంటి, తినటానికి సరి అయిన తిండి, కట్టుకోటానికి గుడ్డ లేనివాళ్లు ఇప్పుడు సుఖంగా నివసిస్తున్నారు. అయితే బాధపడుతున్నవాళ్లు పెద్దవాళ్లే. ఇందుకుగాను ఒక case విషయం ఉదాహరణగా మనవిచేస్తాను. ఈ మధ్య మా డిప్యూటీ Excise Sub-Inspector గారు ఒక తాగినవానిని పట్టుకున్నారు. కాని వానిమీద case పెట్టాలంటే ఆ మనిషి తాగినట్లుగా Doctor certificate ఉండాలి. అందువలన ఒక డాక్టరుగారి hospital కు తీసుకొని వెళ్లితే ఆ డాక్టరుగారు, ఎవరి డబ్బు పెట్టేవాళ్లు కాగితే ప్రభుత్వంవారి కేమి. అందుచేత ఆ మనిషి తాగలేదనే certificate ఇస్తాను అని అన్నారు. ఈ విషయాలనుబట్టి చూస్తే prohibition వల్ల డబ్బుకలవాళ్లే బాధపడుచున్నారు. కాని బీదవారు కాదని మనచేస్తున్నాను.

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“Prohibition లో కొన్ని లోటుపాట్లు కనిపిస్తున్నాయంటే Excise Department ఉద్యోగులకు ఆయదాలు లేకపోవుటయే కారణమని నా మనవి. పోలీసువారికి ఈ prohibition ను కూడా అప్పగించినట్లైతే అది సక్రమంగా అమలు జరుపబడగల దని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఒక వేళ తగినంతమంది పోలీసులు లేకపోయినట్లయితే Excise Department వారికే తుపాకులు ఇప్పించగోరాను.”

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—“ వారికి తుపాకులు కాల్పడం సరిగా తెలియదు.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ వంట సారాయి తయారుచేసే వాళ్లను పట్టుకోవాలంటే ఉద్యోగులకు తుపాకులు ఉండవలెను. లేనిచో prohibition సక్రమంగా సాగదు.

“ఈ సంవత్సరం మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలోని King George Hospital ను develop చేసే నిమిత్తం కొన్ని buildings లు కట్టబడ్డాయి. ఇందుకుగాను రెండు లక్షల రూపాయలను sanction చేసినట్లు తెలిసినది. కాని అక్కడ ఉన్నవారిని అడిగి న్నట్లైతే ఈ సంవత్సరం మార్చి ఆఖరులోపుగా నాలుగు లక్షల రూపాయలవరకు ఖర్చు చేయవచ్చునని చెప్పినారు. కాబట్టి ఆర్థికశాఖా మాతృలు మా King George Hospital కు నాలుగు లక్షలు ఇప్పించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఈ ఆసుపత్రిలో షిడవారికి ఎక్కువ సౌకర్యములు కలుగుటలేదు. నెలకు 50 రూపాయల ఆదాయము వచ్చేవారికే ఉచితంగా చేస్తారు. అంతకుపైగా వచ్చిన వారివద్దనుంచి X-Ray 5 రూపాయలని, urine కు 3 రూపాయలని ఈ విధంగా చాలా డబ్బు ఖర్చు పెట్టుకోవలసివస్తోంది. నెలకు 50 రూపాయల ఆదాయం వచ్చేవారు ఇంత డబ్బు ఖర్చు పెట్టుకోలేరు. కాబట్టి ఈ 50 రూపాయల limit ను నెలకు 100 రూపాయల ఆదాయముకు పెంచవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

“కార్మికులకు న్యాయము కలుగజేయుటకుగాను ప్రభుత్వంవారు adjudication tribunals ను ఏర్పాటు చేస్తున్నారు. కాని ఈ adjudication tribunals ఇచ్చి నటువంటి awards ను పార్లెమెంటు వేత్తలు సరిగా అమలు చేయుటలేదు. అంతే కాకుండా management కు కార్మికులకు వచ్చిన తగాదాను adjudication కు refer చేసినతరువాత, tribunal వారు వారి award ను ఇచ్చేసరికి అయిదు ఆరు నెలలకాలము పడుతోంది. ఈ అయిదు, ఆరు నెలలు కార్మికులు జీతము లేకుండా పని చేయవలసి వస్తోంది. ఇంత దీర్ఘ కాలము జీతంలేకుండా కార్మికులు బాధపడకుండా చేయవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను. అంతే కాకుండా పార్లెమెంటు వేత్తలు tribunal వారి తీర్పులను సక్ర మంగా అమలుపరచడం లేదు. దీనికి కారణం ప్రభుత్వంవారు pass చేసిన చట్టంలో award ను సరిగా implement చేయకపోతే ఇత. రూ 250 లు అని ఉన్నది. పార్లెమెంటు వేత్తలు tribunal యొక్క తీర్పును సాటించినట్లైతే వారికి అనేక సందర్భములలో రూ 5,000 or 6,000 లవరకు అధనంగా ఖర్చు పెట్టవలసి వస్తుంది. కాని tribunal award ను సాటించకపోయినట్లైతే ఇత. రూ 250 లు మాత్రమే. అందువల్ల పార్లెమెంటు వేత్తలకు fine చెల్లించడమే లాభకరమని వారు tribunal award ను అమలుచేయుటలేదు. కాబట్టి శాసనాన్ని సవరణచేసి ఇత. ఇంకా చాలా ఎక్కువగా ఉండేటట్లు చేయగోరాను.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ కొత్త చట్టములలో సవరణ చేస్తాను.”

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SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ ఆ విషయాన్ని మా I.N.T.U.C. తీర్మానములో ప్రభుత్వానికి మనవి చేసుకున్నాము.

“ **Electricity** ప్రజలకు చాలా అవసరమైనటువంటిది. ఈ నాడు గ్రామములలోని ప్రజలకూడా విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి కావాలని అంటున్నారు. Electricity సహాయంతో వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధి మరింతగా చేయవచ్చును. మా విశాఖపట్నంలో ఒక thermal station ఉన్నది. రెండు సంవత్సరాలనుంచి దానిని develop చేస్తామని అంటున్నారు. కాని ఇంతవరకు అటువంటిదేమీ జరుగలేదు. ఈ మధ్య భక్తవత్సలంగారిని అడిగితే సామానులు దొరికటంలేదని ఇంకొక 18 నెలల తరువాత అవి దొరుకుతాయని అప్పుడు develop చేయబడుతుందని అన్నారు. ఎప్పుడు ఈ సామానులు వస్తాయో, ఎప్పుడు మా విశాఖపట్నం thermal station ను develop చేస్తారో నాకు తెలియడం లేదు. ఇప్పుడు మా విశాఖపట్నంలో house connections కావాలంటే మద్రాసుకు వచ్చి అధికారులను బ్రతిమాలుకోవలసి వస్తోంది. కాని సినిమాలకు కరెంటు సృష్టించేస్తున్నారు. సినిమాలకు కరెంటు సృష్టించేసేదానికి నేను వ్యతిరేకిని కాను గాని ముందు ప్రజలయొక్క అవసరములకు ప్రాధాన్యమిచ్చి తరువాత సినిమాలకు ఇప్పించవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ సినిమాలకు electricity యిచ్చినట్లైతే మీ విశాఖపట్నం మునిసిపాలిటీకి ఎక్కువ entertainment tax వస్తుందికదా.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ ముందు ప్రజలకు కావలసిన అవసరాలకు ప్రాధాన్యము ఇవ్వవలెను. వన్ను వస్తుండని house connections ఇవ్వడం మానేస్తే, 17 కోట్ల రూపాయలు వస్తుందని prohibition మానేస్తామా.”

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—“ దానికి దీనికి పోలికా.”

SRI C. VEERABHADRA RAO :—“ సామాన్య ప్రజలకు కావలసిన house connections ఇవ్వటానికి సినిమాలకన్న ప్రాధాన్యము ఇవ్వాలి. అంటే కాకుండా రాష్ట్రంలో ఆక్కడక్కడ private company లు ఉన్నాయి. వాటిని nationalize చేస్తామని ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఒక చట్టాన్ని pass చేసినారు. కాని ఇంకా వేటిని తీసుకొనివట్లు లేదు. ఈ private company లకు ఎప్పుడు తీసుకుంటారో తెలియదు. కాని ఈ company లవారు ప్రభుత్వ చట్టాన్ని ఆధారంగా తీసుకొని ప్రజలకు ఏ సహాయము చేయడం లేదు. కొత్త connections యివ్వడంలేదు. వారి కంపెనీలను ప్రభుత్వంవారు స్వాధీనం చేసుకుంటారు అని management లవారు అనేక విషయాలు అశ్రద్ధ చేస్తున్నారు. ఎక్కడైనా రైలులు పోయినా కూడా మరమ్మత్తు చేయించుటలేదు. మా జిల్లాలోని అశ్రద్ధ కాపల్లి corporation వారు ఏ విధంగాను ప్రజలకు సహాయ పడడంలేదు. కాబట్టి వెంటనే ఈ company ని స్వాధీనం చేసుకొనవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచున్నాను. లేక పోయినట్లైతే ఈ company ల ట్రిండ్ ఉన్న ప్రదేశాలలోని ప్రజలు ఉభయ భ్రష్టులు కావలసి వస్తుంది.

“ మా జిల్లాలో ఓస్ యజమానులు చాలా అన్యాయాలు చేస్తున్నారు. మైలుకు రూ. 0-0-7 వసూలుచేయవలసి ఉన్నను రూ. 0-1-0 కు తక్కువ వార్జీ చేయడం లేదు. ఇంత ఎక్కువగా ఏ జిల్లాలోను వార్జీ చేయరని నా అభిప్రాయము. మా సరి

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హద్దు జిల్లా ఆయినటువంటి తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లాలో ఇంత అన్యాయములేదు. ఎవరైనా ఏమైనా అడిగితే వాళ్లను బస్ లలో ఎక్కించు కోరు. ప్రయాణీకులకు టిక్కెట్లు యివ్వరు. ఈ మధ్యన ఒక పెద్ద మనిషి అనకాపల్లినుంచి చోడవరం ప్రయాణం చేయవలసివచ్చినది. ఆయనవద్ద బస్ వారు ఎక్కువ రేటు చార్జి చేస్తే ఇదేమయ్యా అని అడిగితే ఆయనను బస్ యజమాని బలవంతంగా బస్ లోనుంచి దింపివేసినాడు. ఇటువంటి case లను మేము D.S.P. గారితో చెప్పినాము. వారు కూడా కొన్ని case లను పట్టుకున్నారు. కాని ఇంకను బస్ యజమానులు హెచ్చు రేట్లునే పెనులు చేస్తున్నారు. ప్రభుత్వమువారు వారి ఆధికారులకు ఈ విషయంలో ఇకముందైనా హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనవలసినదని order ను పంపవలసినది కోరుచున్నాను. లేనిచో ఈ బస్ యజమానులు ప్రయాణీకులను దోచుకుంటారు.

“మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలో రోడ్డుకూడా చాలా పాడైపోయి ఉన్నది. ముఖ్యంగా విజయనగరం, చికాకోలు రోడ్లుమీద ఉన్న నాశనవలన వంతెన చాలా కాలం నుంచి మరమ్మత్తులేకుండా ఉన్నది. వర్షాకాలములు 15, 20 రోజులు ప్రయాణము చేయటకుకూడా వీలుకలుగుటలేదు. ప్రజలు చాలా ప్రయాణపడవలసి వస్తోంది. ఈ వంతెన కట్టేనిమిత్తము అనేక సార్లు బడ్జెటులలో estimate లు వేసినారు కాని వాటిని ఖర్చుచేసినట్లులేదు. ఈ సంవత్సరమైనను ఆ పని పూర్తిచేయించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“అమ్మకము పన్ను వలన వస్తువుల ధరలు విపరీతంగా పెరిగిపోయి సామాన్య ప్రజలు చాలా భాధలుపడవలసి వస్తోంది. ఈ department లో పనిచేసే ఉద్యోగులు హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని పనిచేస్తే ఈ పన్ను భారాని కొంతవరకు తగ్గించవచ్చునని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఇప్పుడు అనేకమంది వర్తకులు అమ్మకాలు ఎక్కువగా ఉన్నప్పుటికి ఖస్తకాలలో తక్కువ అమ్మకాలనే చూపిస్తారు. రూ 5,000 ల అమ్మకాలుంటే రూ 1,000 లకే అమ్మకాలుగా చూపిస్తున్నారు. దీనివలన ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తక్కువ ఆదాయం వస్తోంది. ఇటువంటివి ఆరికట్టిపెట్టితే హెచ్చు ఆదాయం వస్తుంది. దానికి సరిపోయినంతవరకు అమ్మకము పన్ను రేటును తగ్గించవచ్చును.

“మా విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లా కొరత జిల్లా ; irrigation scheme లను ఎక్కువగా అమలుపరచినట్లైతే కొద్దిపాటి కాలంలోనే స్వయంసామకము అవటానికి ఎన్నో అవకాశాలున్నాయి. విజయనగరం సమీపమున ఇటువంటి అవకాశాలు ఎన్నో ఉన్నాయి. అక్కడ ఉన్న జలాశయాన్ని కనుక వాగు చేయించినట్లైతే సుమారు 20 వేల ఎకరాల భూమిని సాగుచేయవచ్చును. ఈ మరమ్మత్తులకు ఇదివరలో విజయనగరం రాజాగారు డబ్బు ఇస్తామని చెప్పినారు. కాన ప్రభుత్వంవారు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని ఈ మరమ్మత్తులను చేయించి అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి చేయించగోరాన. అంతేకాకుండా మా జిల్లాలో ఉన్న నదులమీద అనకట్టలు కట్టించి ఎక్కువ భూమికి నీటిని సరఫరాచేసే ఏర్పాటులు చేయించగోరాను.

11-30
a.m.

“మా విశాఖపట్నంలో ఒక dairy farm ఉన్నది. ఈ మధ్యన కొన్ని మంచి గేదెలనుకూడా కొన్నారు. ఈ dairy farm లో వచ్చే పాలను contractor లకు కేరు రూ. 0-8-0 లకు రూ. 0-10-0 లకు అమ్ముచున్నారు. ఆ కంట్రాక్టర్లు ఆ పాలలో నీళ్లు కలిపి కేరు రూ. 0-12-0 లకు అమ్ముచున్నారు. ఈ విధంగా ఆ లాభం మధ్య వర్తకులకు ఇచ్చటకు బదులు dairy farm వారి పాలను ప్రజలకు అమ్మటము కనుక ఏర్పాటుచేసినట్లైతే ఎక్కువ ఆదాయంవస్తుంది.

[Sri C. Veerabhadra Rao] [8th March 1950]

“మునిసిపాలిటీలోని రోడ్లు Highways Department వారికి అప్పగించినా ఈ విధంగా చేసిన తరువాత అనేక మంది రోడ్లను encroach చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ encroachment లకు అప్రచేయటానికి municipality ల వారికి అధికారము లేదు. Highways Department వారు అభ్యంతరాలు తెలిపేటప్పటికి చాలా కాలం పడుతోంది. దానిపైనే రెమిన్యూ డిపార్టుమెంటువారు చర్య తీసుకోవటానికి మరికొంత కాలం పడుతోంది. కాలవ్యవధి హెచ్చుగా ఉండడంచేత encroach చేసినవారు ఆయా స్థలాల్లో మేడలు కడుతున్నారు. చిన్న చిన్న గోడలైతే పడగొట్టివేయ వచ్చునుగాని పెద్ద పెద్ద మేడలను, ఇండ్లను తీసివేయించడం చాలా కష్టం. ఇటువంటి case లు ఇప్పుడు మా విశాఖపట్టణంలో 300, 400 ల వరకు ఉన్నవి. ఈ encroachment లను ఇప్పుడు కాదని అంటే ఆ ఇండ్లు, మేడలు కట్టుకున్నవారు చాలా నష్టం సంభవిస్తుంది. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడకుండా మొట్టమొదటే శ్రద్ధ తీసుకోవలసియున్నది. అందుకుగాను మునిసిపల్ రోడ్లను తిరిగి Highways Department నుంచి Municipality లకు అప్పగించవలసినదని నా మనవి.

“రాష్ట్రంలోని ఎన్ని జిల్లాలలోనూ జిల్లా బోర్డు ఎన్నికలు జరిగినప్పటికీ విశాఖ పట్నం జిల్లాలో ఇంకను ఎన్నికలు జరుపబడలేదు. గత సంవత్సరం నుంచి ఈ ఎన్నికలను March 1 నుంచి April 1 అని, తరువాత May 1 అని ఈ విధంగా వాయిదాలు వేస్తున్నారు. జిల్లా విభజనకూడా అయినది. జిల్లాలోని, తాలూకాలో Constituency లను కూడా ఏర్పాటు చేశారు. ఇందుకు తగిన కారణములేమో నాకు తెలియదు. ప్రతిదానికి కలెక్టర్ల వద్దకు పోవాలంటే చాలా కష్టంగా ఉన్నది. పనులు సరిగా జరగటంలేదు. కాబట్టి వెంటనే జిల్లా బోర్డుకు ఎన్నికలు జరిపి, ప్రజలు తమ కష్టసుఖాలను తమ ప్రతినిధులకు తెలిపి తగినంత సహాయము పొందుటకు అవకాశము కలగజేయవలసినదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.”

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:—“There are nearly a dozen speakers. To-morrow the Leader of the Opposition and several Ministers are going to speak. So I request hon. Members to observe a time-limit of about half an hour and see that they make their speeches as short as possible.”

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—“Do the Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Ministers require the whole of to-morrow? I suggest that the Ministers and all the party leaders may be allowed to speak to-morrow. Mr. Uppi Sahib will like to speak only tomorrow.”

*** SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR:**—“Mr. Deputy Chairman, it is gratifying to note that the Hon. Finance Minister has presented an almost balanced budget without recourse to new taxation. At the outset I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to the fact that the share of the income-tax assignable to this State will be reduced by the proposals contained in the Central Government's Budget for 1950-51. I find that credit is taken for Rs. 820 lakhs under this head and it will be reduced by Rs. 120 lakhs as a result of the reduction by one anna and the other proposals under income-tax receipt announced by the Hon. Finance Minister of the Government of India. The net result or loss from income-tax receipts as a result of the various proposals contained in the Central Budget will be Rs. 14.99 crores.

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Of this, Rs. 7.12 crores will go to the divisible pool of the States. 17.5 per cent of this divisible pool under the award given by the ex-Governor of the Reserve Bank comes to Rs. 1.2 crores, and this will be the loss of our State."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Central Government have advised us to take credit for Rs. 8.20 crores for 1950-51, which amount is the same as in the current year, in spite of the reduction by half per cent in the percentage share."

* SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" I shall be glad if there is no reduction. But what I have said, is only as a result of my reading of the Central Budget.

" The Hon. Finance Minister has referred to the financial repercussions due to the merger of the States of Pudukottai, Banganapalle and Sandur and he expects to get compensation from the Government of India for the excess of expenditure over revenue in respect of these areas.

" I am glad that the Government have after all put the scheme of State Trading under Capital Account which I suggested as long back as 1948. I would like to suggest further that they should secure the services of an officer of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service to examine the whole scheme of State Trading from the time it was taken up by the Advisers and report to the Ministry.

" The chief object of a budget is, to show all the advantages that the State has conferred on the population of the State to increase their productive capacity and to enable them to earn more, so that they can lead a contented and peaceful life with all their wants satisfied. Let us examine how far that object is fulfilled by the present budget. In paragraph 22 of his budget speech, the Hon. Finance Minister says that ' unless the general level of prices comes down appreciably, there is very little prospect of the expenditure being reduced.' Reduction in the level of prices can be brought about primarily by increased production all round, by abolishing taxes like the General Sales Tax on essential articles and by a reduction in Government expenditure by retrenchment.

" Increased production can be achieved only if full enthusiasm and interest are created among the producers, and prices of the commodities play an important part in them. In a country where a predominant section of the population depends on agriculture, the level of prices will determine the purchasing power of the population. Agriculture, perhaps, is the only business in which the producer continues to produce irrespective of profit, because to him it is not the pursuit of an occupation but a way of living. 11-45 P.M.

" The level of this price should be high enough to assure an adequate income to the producer, and low enough to place the goods within the reach of the consumer. If minimum prices are fixed, the following benefits will be the result—the creditworthiness of the agricultural borrower may increase and banking institutions may be more willing to lend.

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"Insurance companies may be more ready to undertake the schemes of crop insurance as the risks arising out of such business may be reduced. Plans of land improvement can be undertaken when the prices of crops can be depended upon to remain stable. With an improvement in the general standard of living, the cost of poor and famine relief may be brought down to manageable proportions and such schemes may be integrated with the general economic policy.

"The next question is agricultural labour. The dependence of agriculture upon manual labour in India is more prominent than in advanced Western countries, where agriculture is being increasingly mechanized. Under normal conditions, there has been, generally no dearth of labour, but it is the war, that has served to focus attention upon the problem of labour. As has been already mentioned, wages have gone up by 100 to 300 per cent after the war. The rise in labour cost has cut into the agriculturists' profit margin. There is also a rise in the standard of life of the labourers. But, in spite of increase in wages, the landless labourers and farm servants have run into debts. With regard to the rise in the standard of life, it must be welcomed as it was at sub-human level before the war. The real issue is how far it is possible to maintain, if not improve, this slightly enhanced standard of life in the future.

"A contented labour force will be a valuable asset to agriculture. But at the same time any undue rise in wages, will be detrimental to agricultural progress. A satisfactory re-adjustment of wages to the new postwar conditions is an indispensable step to a better order in the agricultural sphere. This naturally leads to a consideration of the vexed question of stabilisation of wages, which should take into account the reasonable profits of agriculturists and the legitimate interests of consumers. Therefore, I suggest that a comprehensive economic enquiry into agricultural costs, profits and wages in regard to the major crops of this Province, should be immediately undertaken with a view to fixing guaranteed minimum price for agricultural products and minimum wages for agricultural workers. There is no use of advancing the stock argument, that the Government of India propose to conduct an enquiry into all these aspects, and that fixation of minimum wages for agricultural labour will be taken up in 1951 or 1952 under the 'Minimum Wages Act'. Agriculture is a provincial subject; and self-sufficiency programme is to be carried out within 1951-52. Next we shall examine the need for State assistance, the progress of the grow-more-food campaign and the intensive cultivation scheme under self-sufficiency programme. Agriculture involves a high degree of risk, on account of climatic and biological factors, and it is carried on by a large number of unorganized producers. The measures taken during the last six or seven years may be classified under the following heads:—

- (1) Bringing new lands under cultivation,
- (2) Improving yield per acre."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, let the hon. Member speak before the mike, because it is a well-considered speech, and we want to hear more clearly."

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Thank you, Sir.

(3) Improving the production of substitute-food, like fish."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Does the hon. Member eat fish, Sir? "

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Though I do not take fish, yet I realize its food-value.

" There is no mention in the Hon. Finance Member's speech about the steps taken to multiply the supply of fish, and augment the food resources of the State. In this direction, I should like to know whether collection of reliable figures regarding catches, export, transport, preservation, etc., in order to find out the extent of the use of fish as food and plan for further development have been arranged for."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I require, Sir, whether the hon. Member is competent to speak about fish, when he does not take fish? "

* SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Sir, the department has been put under a separate Director; and it is seen that the Food Minister is taking a lot of interest in the above direction. In the matter of increasing acreage yield, the following items play an important part, namely, use of improved seeds, distribution of ammonium sulphate and phosphatic manures and intensive green manures for food crops.

" In the matter of supply of improved seeds, the State Government are running a number of seed-farms in the lands of ryots, besides the Government farms, where the nucleus seeds are produced, and distributed. It is estimated that an increased yield of 10 to 15 per cent will be the result in using the improved seeds. When we look into the figures that are available regarding the distribution of improved seeds, the position is not encouraging. The quantity of improved seeds distributed in 1947-48 was 9,030 tons, in 1948-49, 7,934 tons, and in 1949-50 it was only 5,049 tons. The quantity of green-manure seeds distributed in 1947-48 was 1,158, in 1948-49, 2,583; but in 1949-50 it was only 757. A special staff of seed development officers, assistants, etc., has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 1,55,000 per year and a staff of 100 additional demonstrators has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 3,00,000 per year from 1949-50.

" In the matter of distribution of fertilizers, if proper care had been taken in drawing up a scheme and carrying it out, the shortage of food would have been reduced to some extent. For instance, if enough quantities of groundnut cake had been made available in deltaic areas, where there was assured water-supply.

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it would have resulted in increased production. In the carrying out of the subsidy scheme for phosphatic manures, though the scheme was announced in April 1949, orders were issued only in August, and it was cancelled in November and then restored in January 1950. How can the ryot be expected to have confidence and enthusiasm to put forth all his energy and resources in the direction of production, if assistance and encouragement are not given at the proper time and season? The stock argument that the Government of India have cancelled the concession and then restored the same, will not hold good. If some assistance is extended, it is not fair to withdraw it in the same year. Did not this Government meet the whole amount of bonus in 1947-48, when the Government of India did not fulfil their part of the obligation? It is seen, that the Government have not been able to spend the whole amount of food bonus they have earned for the last two years, and a sum of Rs. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ crores remain unspent. It may be the reason, why the Government of India have not allotted any separate grant for approved grow-more-food schemes this year. I should like to urge that these schemes may be carried out as a war-time measure.

“ Next in the direction of bringing new lands under cultivation, tractors and bulldozers play their part successfully and the two precautions, that are to be taken, are to make sure of water-supply and soil survey.

“ In the Tanjore district, a vast area of about 60,000 to 90,000 acres remain uncultivated in the area commanded by the Grand Anicut Canal and Vadavar, and the whole extent has been registered under that ayacut, and said to have been brought under cultivation. This state of affairs has been existing for the last four years. I should like to treat this as a war-time measure and suggest that a special division may be created to bring under actual cultivation at least in the fasli 1360, a large portion of the area. Under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 (Central Act XXIII of 1946), action can be taken for bringing all cultivable waste lands under the plough.

“ Turning to the proposal of the Government regarding enquiry into land revenue, mentioned in His Excellency the Governor's address, I welcome the same. The reports of the Special Officer appointed by the Government to investigate land revenue, land tenure, etc., are with the Government. The public have no idea of the financial implications of the abolition of the zamindari estates. Landowners are not averse to the complete overhauling of the revenue system and placing land-tax on a statutory basis, and levying a tax on the net value of produce sold, subject to a reasonable minimum. We are having plenty of troubles with our labourers, who have been all along loyal and contented, thanks to the Communist agitators. If these agitations are allowed to gather momentum, the cost of production of foodgrains will go up, and also the quantity of production of foodgrains will go down considerably. I should like to warn

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the Government that it would be ill-advised to disturb the long-established system of tenure, without fully examining the implications and consequences on the efficiency of agriculture and food production.

"Sir, I now come to the subject of food and the various measures taken by the Government in regard to food control and rationing. Control and rationing have been introduced after various other experiments, and they have come to stay for some years till the country becomes self-sufficient. As an immediate step, the reclassification of card-holders according to their dietetic habits may be undertaken. It is not known under what circumstances rice cards are distributed to people who are millet eaters for generations. When once they have been put under rice, they have given up cultivation of millet crops and taken to commercial crops. It is one of the reasons for the decreased production of food-crops. In this connexion, I wish to emphasise that steps in the direction of crop survey and crop planning should be adopted as war-time measures. The services of the non-official agencies like Congress Committees can be utilized in carrying out these measures. If food shortage is successfully tackled, much of our work in combating the spread of Communism would have been finished.

"Housing may be considered next to food. With a view to solve this problem, the Government have organized co-operative housing schemes. All the schemes that have been carried out till now are urban and have helped only the rich people in the urban areas, who have money to invest."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"They include rural housing schemes also."

* SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR:—"I should like to suggest that this branch of their activities should be switched over to rural housing schemes as well. A type-design may be evolved and 25 per cent of the estimated cost of the same may be collected now from the labourers, more particularly Harijans who are the shareholders of the societies to be formed, 25 per cent may be contributed from the Harijan Welfare Fund, and the balance of 50 per cent may be recovered from the shareholders in 10 or 15 annual instalments.

"I have given a proposal of this kind to the Co-operative department. I know, there will be many land-owners in my district and other districts, who will be willing to help the labourers with the amount required at the outset, i.e., 25 per cent of the cost of the building, as free gift to them, besides giving the sites free of cost. I wish the Hon. Ministers in charge of Rural Development and Housing to take up this suggestion and work it out as expeditiously as possible.

12
noon.

"The violent activities of the Communists are occurring often in my district mostly with the help of labouring class, who are easily led away by the false hopes and promises extended to them. The Government have taken proper steps to root out those men and if other ameliorative steps like housing mentioned

[Sri K. Manathunainatha Desigar] [8th March 1950]

above are taken up, I assure the Government that the so-called spread of Communist activities will disappear. Assignment of house-sites, of course, will also go a long way to solve the problem. Proper steps in this direction also are to be speeded up. Next, co-operative farming is to be tried at least from fasli 1360, and a beginning may be made in the large holdings of temples and mutts. After the passing of the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, the Government will have ample powers to enforce their schemes. An investigation can be made even now of the places that can be chosen for the scheme. This scheme is being talked about for many years and no attempt has been made to put it in operation, except in one or two places like Marudur in Tiruchirappalli district and Nelvoi in Chingleput district. In this connexion I would like the Hon. Minister for Co-operation to inform us the results of the working of the Marudur scheme.

“Coming next to the taxes that go to increase the level of prices, I wish to emphasise that the levy of sales-tax on essential articles like foodgrains and textiles will certainly put up the cost of living, and I suggest to the Government to fall in line with the Government of India, and to give up the levy of sales-tax on essential goods. It will also be in the interest of the common good of the State since it will bring down the cost of living, as admitted by the Hon. Minister himself.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“The hon. Member is asking the Hon. the Finance Minister to give up the ‘Kamadhenu’.”

* SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—“No useful purpose will be served by examining the question whether the language of clause 3 of article 286 of the Constitution is intended to affect taxes, which are already in existence, or whether it will apply only to those that may be levied hereafter. The real task to which our attention is to be devoted is to bring down the cost of living, and in that direction if it is found that the levy of sales-tax on essential commodities is prejudicial, and if the common good demands that then the Government should not hesitate to give up the same, though it may be that they may have to give up a portion of their revenue.

“It will be interesting to note that the horns of this ‘Kamadhenu’ are trying to hit some of the primary producers of foodgrains in Tanjore district who have delivered their produce to the Government direct in the interest of speedy procurement and delivery. But I am sure the Government will exempt those people who have been exempted under clause 2 (1) of the Act, but were being pursued under some section, which was primarily intended for dealers in commodities.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Sir, is the hon. Member in order in referring to the sales-tax as ‘Kamadhenu’? The Hon. the Finance Minister had the exclusive privilege.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“There is no patent, Sir.” (Laughter.)

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SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" I wish to urge the abolition of sales-tax on sale of newspapers also."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We have abolished the sales-tax on newspapers now. Under the provisions of the Constitution, it has already gone. After January 26, 1950, there is no sales-tax on papers."

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" It is conceded that there will be no taxes on the sales of newspapers."

" Coming to the retrenchment proposals, I wish to place before the Government certain important items in the field of education—closure of uneconomic elementary schools with one or two teachers. As far back as 1933, a scheme known as 'Champion' scheme was prepared after elaborate investigation, when the present Director of Public Instruction was in charge of the same, and it was called after the name of the Director Mr. Champion. That has been recommended by the Retrenchment Committee also. The abolition of the posts of Divisional Inspectors also may be carried out. Next is the abolition of the posts of Deputy Directors of Agriculture. There are very many items that can be given effect to without prejudice to the efficient administration of the Government."

" Coming to major irrigation works, I should like to know whether the scheme of levying a betterment tax on the people, who are directly benefited by the project to be spread over a period of many years, has been given effect to. Of course, the Minister for Public Works deserves our congratulations on his achievement and for the successful working of the many schemes both in the field of irrigation and electricity. He has taken efforts to investigate all possible projects and natural resources that can be tapped. It is seen from the expenditure that has been incurred on irrigation works (page 27 of the Budget speech) that Rs. 97 lakhs were spent in 1945-46. The figure for 1949-50 (revised estimate) is Rs. 597 lakhs, six times more than the figure for 1945-46. It is nearly Rs. 600 lakhs. It redounds to the credit of the Hon. Minister for Public Works that he has been able to push through many schemes after a thorough investigation. These projects will augment the natural resources of the State, especially in the direction of food."

" I see from the capital expenditure under major irrigation for 1950-51 that a sum of Rs. 287 lakhs is provided for Tungabhadra Project and Rs. 103 lakhs for Lower Bhavani Project. I do not grudge spending any amount for carrying out major projects in the common interests of the Indian Union. But I suggest to place these figures separately under each head in the capital account. Certain principles have been unanimously agreed upon by the Partition Committee set up for the separation of the Andhra Province and they have to be carried out at the proper time, in the proper spirit and in the interests of all concerned."

" With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

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* MRS. M. HENSMAN :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I must congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister on producing a budget so ordinary and so uninspiring that it makes us wonder whether he had a bad dream before he wrote it. It seems to me that when a budget is to come before an Assembly and a Council, there should be some element, shall I say, of adventure, even of a gamble with the imagination of the public that will please the public a little and rouse people to a bit of co-operation. But, Sir, there is nothing in this budget which commends itself to us, except that money is to come in and that money is to go out again in order to be used for the many items that are mentioned in the budget. We hope indeed that this money will continue to pour into the Government coffers. It seems to me that next year the budget will be framed for less safety or more safety from whatever angle we may look at it. The Hon. the Finance Minister will trim the sails to the wind, and will scrap a few lakhs of rupees here and there so that his electorate will see what he is doing and will be able to vote for him to a good purpose. But there is in the Treasury Benches no feeling for the common man, and there is no real desire to serve those who have to pay the taxes. Sir, I would like the Hon. the Finance Minister and the Treasury Bench to note that the Minister for Central Finance, who only a few days ago presented his budget in New Delhi, was cheered not less than 21 times, because he considered the case of the common men and the general budget of the middle class gentlemen. There must be something in a budget which should commend itself to the professional and middle class workers and I would like to make to-day a general survey, not a very long one because I know the time is limited and the speakers are many, but a general survey of budget news without much in the way of numbers and statistics, for I leave these to my hon. friends who have already spoken. I now take up certain points that have revealed themselves in the budget under discussion. The hon. Mr. Bhima Rao, the other day was pleading for certain amenities for his constituency. My constituency and that of the hon. Member next to me are wider ones than his without any limitations of geographical boundaries or limitations of space. We represent the home of every gentleman here, and every gentleman's home outside this House. So, I request the Hon. the Finance Minister to take note of at least some of the subjects that I bring up, because they are going to bring about in the future . . ."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, the hon. the lady Member represents the gentlemen and we represent the ladies." (Laughter.)

* MRS. M. HENSMAN :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, I stated that we represented the gentlemen's homes and not the gentlemen. (Laughter.) There is a difference between the two. Sir, Land revenue, forests and registration are so much a matter of routine work that criticism on them is lost and I will only say the amounts are spent on them without good dividends. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for Finance for the increase in the motor vehicles tax. This means that he has put a greater

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number of buses on the road for the many people who have never owned and will never own cars. These buses are going about on the roads and on the streets of mufassal towns and in the city. The Hon. the Minister for Finance being the Hon. Minister for Transport as well has realised that the income from public vehicles is indeed an income that can be counted upon. Now, I would like to ask him to go further. The buses that are now running are not merely for the sake of people who go to offices but also for the population who have to go here and there, and so there should be more buses put on the roads. I should like the Minister to build up this section of his income, and spend freely on new vehicles so that he may expect good returns. Also it is a pleasure to know from the budget that so much has not been spent on repairs and on the upkeep of the buses this year as was spent last year. The Hon. Minister must, therefore, be congratulated on having chosen good men and to care efficiently for the buses, thereby having improved the working of the various departments. Now there has been a lull in the speeches of the Ministry regarding one point of the policy that was dwelt upon last year—I refer to betting and gambling. Taxes are imposed on entertainments and luxuries. Since the last budget the cinema proprietor has had to pay Rs. 2-8-0 per show and probably he does not grudge this because the Finance Minister sees to it that he gets a good number of visitors for his good films. But it is seen from the totalizers and book-makers that the proceeds are increasing and so, the income from taxes on betting and gambling should be on the increase. Is this significant? ”

12-15
p.m.

THE HON SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ It was 34 lakhs last year. It came down to 29 lakhs this year. In the budget estimate it was taken as 22 lakhs. Perhaps the revised estimate is a little more.”

MRS. M. HENSMAN :—“ I spoke of the collection. I thank the Hon. Minister for taking up this question. But I would like to know how it is that the point which my Friend the hon. the Lady Member raised yesterday had not been noticed already by the Ministry. We have to raise money from the public for charitable purposes. But human nature is such that you want something for nothing. Although we do not approve in the least of gambling and betting, do we not approve of selling a number of tickets, say 10,000 tickets in the hope of a lucky number that 100 tickets or a lesser number will get the prize—it may not be of money but of a gramophone, radio or hand-bag or a musical instrument of some sort donated by kind friends. Surely these things should not be ruled out by the Hon. Ministers. I would support the very good point made yesterday by Mrs. Clubwala on this matter because we have to get money now not so much from the rich people since the zamindaries have gone, not so much from the poor people because they cannot afford the luxuries of betting and gambling, but from the middle class who have to support an interminable and increasing number of good works. This may be taken in future, not in the budget but in the policy of the Government, for careful consideration.

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" Now, I come to jails and penal settlements. The Hon. Minister for Law has much to be thankful for in that the tradition of suppression, repression and extraordinary discipline has already existed from time immemorial in the jails. But he, like we has much interest in the reclamation of the prisoner, the improvement of prisons and the need for turning the prisoner into a good citizen in the public interests. I know that he has a great interest in all that will help to create initiative and a love of freedom in the prisoner. Therefore, I would ask that he should call a conference or that he should make some sort of a public attempt to draw together those who would make nice distinctions in the Penal Code, and see that repression or any form of discipline that creates bitterness do not exist in prisons. In the last few months we have seen the outrages in this very State, outrages surely of a community that lives by violence and there has been a general feeling that violence has been resorted to. But that does not mean that there have not been grounds for excitement behind these outrages. A careful enquiry *in camera*—which may not be open to the public—by the Minister and those concerned should be made whereby protection may be given to those prisoners who will really tell the truth about what happens in their cells and other places. But now I have to go by what the newspapers say and they have spoken the truth truly I think. As the newspapers have said, after the large number of deaths as observed in the firing in a certain incident recently in a place not many miles from here, in fact only 200 miles from this City questions arise in our minds. How is it that in a previous regime when firing was resorted to, firing was in the air and if it were directed on the prisoners themselves it was meant perhaps to be on the foot or on the hand, so that no shooting was to kill? Now the position has got worse or better I cannot say. But too many people in jails are being shot either through the heart or head so that they are mortally wounded, and I think that is not according to what the law directs or what the Hon. Minister for Prisons desires or the Premier or anybody in the Treasury Bench. I would like this matter to be looked into by those concerned and I mention it because this may become a blot on the fair name of the Congress in future.

" Then, I come to detenus. You will forgive my mentioning the word 'detenus' because this concern women as well as men. Recently I had the responsibility of visiting a jail and there I saw a woman detenu locked into a room by herself lying on the floor in what appeared to be a miserable condition. I am only saying that no woman must be kept by herself and without any suitable means for natural elimination of natural instincts and surrounded by all sorts of difficulties. Such a woman detenu seems to have preferred freedom by death to a life secured and ordained by a parental Government. This may be an isolated case or it may be a case for the mental hospital. We cannot say that this one case would make a thousand. But this matter of detention has to be gone into forthwith and solitary confinement, specially in the case of women, is not only to be dreaded but to be prevented in future as far as possible.

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“ Coming to juvenile courts there we can only help after some sort of conviction. Before the children are brought in for committal, what is the prejudice of society against them? They have not sinned against society and rather the other way round. It would be better if they are sent into institutions or restored to their own homes. The Madras Children Act must have certain clauses incorporated whereby parents who exploit their children should be prevented from doing so. There is the Moore Market where children are being made to beg and whine instead of going to school. There are children who are educated in all sorts of evil ways of begging and earning money in order to maintain their parents. It is certainly due to economic poverty, to a low rate of living and to a low realisation of the value of life in our country. But these things ought to be prevented and we must have some scheme whereby the Children Act can be worked properly and whereby the people concerned may be persuaded to consider the betterment of the child who is underprivileged and is not able to keep his or her position in society without steady, directed assistance.

“ Sir, the Minister for Education deserves a very big cheer for having grabbed from the other Ministers quite a large portion of the finances for the future educational schemes of the State. Page 5 of our Budget Memorandum gives a very long list of these new things. But should not the Government do more than this? What about such things as getting accommodation for a women's college in this city where a temporary building or temporary accommodation has been given already? (Interruption.) Could not Government also give another building that is much more suitable to the college and which also belongs to Government but is used for other Governmental purposes? If that could be set free for the college, it could have hostels nearby. Money is there. Rs. 10 lakhs are there for the purpose of being spent. Private bodies are going to finance it. It is only the building that is wanted. May I appeal to the Treasury Bench in general and the Education Minister in particular that something may be done for this before July of this year? If this matter could be considered in the next few months, it would bring a great deal of interest and plenty of contentment to many people. The money is there and the Government will not be asked to assist financially.

“ Another point which I cannot help bringing again and again is that of the teacher. In this matter of education, the teacher is still very badly paid. Rupees 18 is the basic pay, without dearness allowance, of an elementary school teacher.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Sir, the Lady Member is speaking about the lower elementary school teachers who are no longer in existence at all. Every teacher now starts on Rs. 25 and is given Rs. 19 as dearness allowance, of which the Government pay a part.”

* MRS. M. HENSMAN :—“ What is the scale? It is Rs. 25—35. Even that little addition of Rs. 7 . . . ”

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Rupees 30-40 is the scale. Government pay Rs. 25 out of it and the management pays the remainder.”

* MRS. M. HENSMAN :—“ I am not asking for the Government side of payment. It is only fair that Government should pay a part and the management a part. I am not asking for anything more. But what is Rs. 35 or Rs. 45 to our women when they have to keep clean, when they have to prepare their own food and when they need all sorts of amenities to themselves as examples to the children who are taught? At the moment, I can well see that the Education Minister cannot increase this beyond Rs. 5 per head, but I hope he will keep a high goal in mind for the next budget to give a substantial increase of at least Rs. 5 for these teachers who are struggling. How can they teach eternal values if they have got a very temporary accommodation and security in their own lives?

“ Basic education has got a good grant. But basic education is to run on what lines? As a friend of mine told me the other day, when botany is taught from a vegetable or a flower, arithmetic is taught from symbols and public finance from a bead chain, etc., there must be some provision, some common platform of knowledge for the child to work upon. Therefore, I would plead that education should go hand in hand and much more closely with basic education and it is a noble thing for handicrafts and hand-work to be taught to children because that is our aim in life—that there should be something by which a child can earn its living afterwards. If children are taught crafts young, they can produce some saleable articles and earn something which is certainly a protection for their future life.

“ Coming to certain bits of useful work in the coming year, we have something provided in the Miscellaneous budget and in the supplementary budget. Team work, citizenship, games, athletics—these are things that deserve a good deal more of attention than is given to them. They are not luxuries. If you gentlemen, could have spent so much as grants for the Olympics, you could give a few thousands for enabling the schools in the State to have better playgrounds, or perhaps a physical instructor where there is none. Perhaps the output of team work and games will be greater if there is a programme which up to now has not been implemented. I would ask that Government should go into this matter more closely in future, and form a definite policy for the occupation and self discipline of youth in its leisure hours.

“ I turn now to the Hon. Minister for Health. He certainly inspires his department with his own devotion to duty and selfless work and without him, the Department would be dead. Now that Indian medicine has come into its own, it should not receive such a small grant for the future. But if it is to be made accessible to the districts and villages and if it is to be built up on the lines of other systems of medicine, it certainly needs a good deal of backing than has been given to it in the past. The Chopra Report is voluminous to read, and difficult to digest. I have not yet come across a single doctor who can

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explain the scheme in a practical way but the University has put forward a syllabus of Indian Medicine which should be carefully put into action.

" Then I come to the individual institutions of the Medical Department. There are many institutions that need special support. The Mental hospital is one. Not only here but in the other parts of the Province, the Ophthalmic hospital where most of the people go who are so poor that they cannot afford a good meal or anyone to care for them. While their eye-sight is failing—the best doctors are here and the transplantation of the cornea of a dead body to a living person's eye, gives sight again that seems miraculous indeed! Should we not help to build up the Eye Bank, and the Blood Bank, as part of our service for others.

" Then coming to the Veterinary Hospital, it is very necessary that this should be developed on modern lines, because that alone will help us to keep our cattle, dogs, horses and other animals hale and healthy. As a rule we the Indian people love animals and will never take animal life if we can help it but we often ignore pain and suffering in animal life. So we should not neglect the Veterinary Hospital and I request the Hon. Minister in charge of this Portfolio to make bigger grants for the Veterinary Hospital in future than he has done before. 12-30 p.m.

" Next come the Nurses. The nurses of this Province are better trained than anywhere else, and are wanted all over India. We have got a proud name in nursing and we have a B.Sc. course in nursing, where the more technical side will bring out the academic training. As a Province we have every reason to see that our fair name is kept up. But I am sorry to say that we are neglecting these members of society. We have not yet recognized their usefulness and have not given them that place which they deserve. What we find today is that these nurses have not enough to live upon and save as well for their old age—they have to live with some of their old relatives on whom they have to depend for their food and shelter, and some of them are not wanted by their relatives. Most of these people will be without food in their mouths and without shelter over their heads unless a good Government comes to their rescue, pays them properly. I urge that the case of these nurses should be taken up.

" This morning, the subject of double dealing in hospitals was referred to by one of the hon. Members. There are some avaricious servants in the hospital who spoil the fair name of the hospitals by demanding money for menial duties from those who are ignorant and who are under-paid. These people want to benefit by the sufferings of others. I would ask the Hon. Minister for Health to go into this matter personally and punish those who are accepting monies from the poor people who cannot afford to pay them, and to hold enquiries wherever and whenever necessary, so that prompt dismissal may follow neglect of duty.

" Then comes the vexed question of the eradication of venereal diseases, tuberculosis and leprosy. I find that work is being continued in eradicating these. But as regards isolation hospitals, I think much remains to be done. I wish that a certain amount of

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attention be paid to privacy and safety. Today, we find that these isolation places are not safe to live in and there is no privacy at all. Suppose young girls have to go and live in isolation hospitals, you will find that it is impossible for them today to live there with any amount of privacy and safety. So unless you ensure privacy and safety in these isolation hospitals, I am sure these infectious diseases will never die. Unless we can tempt the infectiously diseased persons to go to isolation hospitals immediately where she or he will be properly looked after and cared for, these diseases will continue. Parents will certainly hide the infectious children in their homes, and will not bring them out, rather than send them to isolation hospitals where conditions are far from satisfactory. These difficulties which face the persons who have to live in these hospitals have to be removed.

“ Then I come to the Minister for Housing. There is a great deal to be done in this regard. First of all I would ask the Minister to note two things just before his eyes in the city. There are the hutments which are growing day by day all round the City. You, gentlemen, have only to go across the gate and cross the road to see that in the middle of the Beach, there are any number of these dirty, insanitary groups of houses, or I may call hutments. These are horrible blots upon the landscape, and spoil the beautiful foreshore. I say that the beauty is taken away from the wonderful foreshore, and I do not know what is in store for us there. These huts are very dangerous not only from the point of view of the spreading of disease but for various other things for experience teaches us that. These constitute a real danger to the City, because the people who are living in these hutments are often found not to observe law and order. I would request the Hon. Minister for Housing to look into this matter and to set apart a certain amount of space for these people to live in elsewhere—beyond Rayapuram or Perambur. Their place should not be on the foreshore where we seek to have places which add to the beauty of the City, but it should be somewhere else. If this is done, the men and women living in various hutments scattered over in the city, can get together and have schools for their children more easily, and health centres, etc. At the same time beauty of the City will also be preserved.

“ There is another matter which I would like the Hon. Minister for Housing to consider. The previous Minister for Housing tried hard to keep residential areas free from the intrusion of offices and business concerns and he made considerable efforts in that direction. But the present Minister for Housing has to look after the Prohibition portfolio also and it may be that he has so much on his shoulders that he is not able to attend to this important matter of the location of offices and business houses in residential areas. Time and again I find that private houses and other residential houses are being taken for office purposes, with the result that some families are homeless and without a roof over their heads. In residential areas like Nungambakkam, Egmore, Chetput, etc., the number of offices is increasing. We want the Treasury Bench in general and the Minister for Housing in particular to lay down certain rules to see that houses built for families

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in residential areas must only be used for that purpose and that offices and other business houses must go out somewhere else. Flats and divided houses and compounds are difficult enough—but offices should not be allowed to turn out human beings.

“ Sir, food, housing and clothing are the things that were promised to us by this Government and as members of the Nation, these are the primary things that we want. The Government has brought in many controls. These are all right on paper. Now sugar, kerosene, electricity, everything is being controlled, and in practice it just means that we are not able to get what we want. Today, I spend personally far more time in house-keeping than I ever did before and the sad part of it is that the time goes not on real house-keeping but on make-shifts and substitutes. If the sales-tax on essential articles is removed, it would mean comparatively little loss to the budget and the Minister for Finance need not fear that it will mean less money being spent and less sales-tax being brought in, because all of us will spend the money thus saved on buying more available articles. Even if sales-tax on essential articles is removed, the tax on other things that are not essential articles will bring him sufficient revenue. The sales tax is not to be paid by the person who sells the things but is borne entirely by the consumer. The real person who is to pay this tax is the dealer, but in practice, the man who is hard hit is the consumer. Every-time he purchases some article, he has to pay the tax again and again.

“ Then, let me come to the matter of private enterprises. Private enterprise, Sir, is what a nation and a Government should encourage, but here it has been crushed. We have had long speeches about this, and I do not propose to go deep into this subject, but I must say this, that in order that capital may have its own way and in order to give healthy competition, I would ask that private enterprise be encouraged in this country by every means in the power of the Government, for it is not possible to nationalize every industry, and it is desirable that goods should be exported to help public finance and shipping.

“ Finally, I come to the question of linguistic provinces and political sufferers. These headings by themselves would be enough. Still I would appeal that at this stage the question of the formation of linguistic provinces may be dropped. We have too many divisions in society already. We have so much of disunity already. In the first year of Independence, we divided from Pakistan; then all the States merged together; and in this, the first year of Republican India, let us not fritter away our energy and finances in trying to set up and divide this Province according to language. We have no money and we cannot afford to multiply our High Courts, Ministers or other Government offices in the Province. I feel that this question should be set aside now till such time as our finances prove to be adequate to the task.

“ Coming to political sufferers, I would like to say that lands which have been given to others, especially to servicemen should never be taken away from them. Just because there are people

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known to this Government who have suffered in the recent past, and who have given their lives for a cause we must not forget, the others who sacrificed for a cause which is as much ours as theirs. For the free education of children of men from the army, provision should be made by a grateful country and the future of these families depends to a large extent on these lands only. Men trained in and disciplined by war will be more likely to cultivate the land and help the Grow More Food Campaign.

"I request the Members of the Treasury Bench to consider all these things. Sir, we have got a very big and good budget, well-presented by the Finance Minister. I congratulate him on what he has done, but, I will congratulate him, I trust, still more when he implements the various suggestions which we have given by way of constructive criticism. I would congratulate the Hon. Minister for Finance far more if he could see his way to include many of these items which we have suggested in his budget, for the nation deserves relief. This Province cannot pay out any more than it has already done, and if it is sucked dry, there will be nothing to build up in the future."

* SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there is not much in this budget that can be commented upon. It is very plain that the Finance Minister has cut his coat according to his cloth. The figures are there. Various sources of income and items for expenditure are mentioned there and it is mere arithmetic to see what remains, whether it is a positive remainder or a negative remainder. That means whether there is anything remaining after expenses or whether any debt is to be incurred. But there is some sort of desperate statement in his speech not very clearly stated, but hinted at that there is no money and there are no more sources of taxation. That means that the sources of taxation are practically exhausted. That is the position we infer if we go through the budget—the budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister. It is seen that practically every source is exhausted unless we only go back to the medieval period and note the existence of Jezya and Poll Tax. Some taxation measure was suggested by hon. Sri Bhima Rao and that is regarding agricultural income. There is not much agricultural income in Bellary which of course he finds in other districts. So, he says that agricultural income may be taxed. Now there is a good deal of public opinion against it. Therefore, I agree with the Hon. Finance Minister when he said that there are no more sources of taxation in this State. Last year, very many taxes were proposed to be imposed, but the Finance Minister was wise enough to give them up. This year it is absolutely clear that there is no scope for any fresh taxation.

"Then, how can you get on will be the next question. If we have to limit our sources of taxation, then how are we to get on? I am of opinion that we have to enlarge the scope of the existing sources, instead of finding new sources. I think that there is much scope for doing this. I would briefly indicate these. You have got the lands, industries, highways and electricity. These

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are the four things that may develop in course of time. I will take up first the lands. You can get more revenue from the land without demanding higher rates. It is impossible to pay higher rates. Then, how to get more revenue from the land, will be the question. It is only in this way. There are acres of land unreclaimed. There are acres of land not at all properly cultivated. There are acres of land cultivated only for a single crop. There are acres of land which are mostly dry and which can be converted into wet lands if sufficient irrigation facilities can be afforded. Thus, if all the river resources and fountain resources in the country are tapped and made use of for this purpose and other irrigation facilities by means of electricity are given, then the land revenue of the State will certainly develop. That is one thing.

“ Then there are the waters underneath which have got to be tapped. For doing this electricity is necessary. So if you develop electricity and introduce improved methods of cultivation, that will also bring you additional source of revenue. In this manner, I am sure the scope of the existing land resources can be enlarged.

“ When we look at the budget, is there not a fair distribution of income among the various items of expenditure? I plead that it is a very fair distribution. If the scope of the existing sources are enlarged in the manner set out by me, then I am sure it will result in bringing additional land revenue.

“ The next thing, I would like to speak about, is electricity. 12.45 p.m.
Electricity will constitute another good source of revenue if the Government supply power to all people. As the Hon. the Finance Minister has pointed out, from the year 1945 to the year 1950-51, there has been an increase by one crore of rupees in the revenue derived from electricity. If that has been possible during this short period when the industry was in the initial stages of development in this country, I am sure when it is further developed, it will prove to be a very good source of income.

“ As regards irrigation, there is a decent provision made for this work. But there are people who would always say that it is not sufficient and in fact, I also subscribe to that view to a certain extent. There is no money available and such being the case, how can we ask the Hon. the Minister for Finance or the other Ministers concerned to allot more? I feel, on the other hand, if the scheme as contemplated is taken on hand and completed, say, within a year or two years or three years, I am sure the land revenue of the State will be further increased when it will be possible to embark upon many more schemes. Thus these things will act and react and by this reaction, I feel sure, we will be able to develop and progress. There will be plenty of money available then for allotment to the various other schemes. The Government can also take up social reform work without fear of failure. But, with regard to these schemes, there is one difficulty in implementing them and that is the non-availability of machinery. We need implements, machines and motors and there is nothing in the budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister which indicates that provision is made for these. There is no mention about

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the installation of plants for heavy industries. I take it that the absence of any reference to this question in this budget speech is probably due to the present financial position of the Government. If, therefore, the State Government are so very helpless in the matter, it is the Central Government that ought to take up this matter and help the State as far as possible in the development of such heavy industries. With regard to agricultural development also, it is not sufficient if the Government have in view only irrigation and electricity. Crops must grow and they can grow only in a properly fed soil. Irrigation is only supplementary. The soil needs first and foremost good manure, and agricultural implements are necessary to prepare the soil for cultivation. These must be supplied to the agriculturists. Of course, there are certain provisions made which may be sufficient or insufficient and perhaps they are based on the financial resources of the Government. There is one other matter to be considered with reference to this question. The Government are not at all planning their programme. Unless we have a plan laying down schemes, say for five years or ten years, then make an attempt to put them into execution without taking a step back and unless we do it with determination, the difficulties cannot be got over. If the electricity and irrigation schemes are taken up and worked in a planned manner, we will be able to see at the end very good results achieved. If it is not done, then certainly the Government will fail. I would, therefore, request the Government to have a planned scheme drawn up with the help of experts. The Ministers or the officials should go to every district and ascertain what the requirements of each district are and what the possibilities of development would be. Planning should thus be preceded by taking an estimate of the districtwar requirements. In this connexion I would like to point out another thing. The climate and other conditions of the districts in our State differ from district to district. This calls for different sums of money being set apart for different districts according as the local conditions demand. For instance, if agriculture is taken, the Government will have to allot a particular sum for Tanjore and the same amount cannot be allotted in the case of Chingleput or Malabar. In the plan to be prepared, it must be made clear that each district will get a particular allotment. I am making mention of this because in the case of Malabar—to cite an instance I know—the present method of districtwar distribution is creating a lot of hardship. I have pointed out several times that tractors and bulldozers can be made use of in Malabar only during the period from 1st December to 31st May, after which monsoon sets in when the tractors will not work properly. But during this period—now we are in March—up to this time, we have had only one bulldozer made available to us in last December and even this, I understand, is not used for agricultural purposes but for the Malampuzha Project”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ That is also agriculture.”

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SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—“ What is not agriculture? Irrigation forms part of agriculture. Electricity also in a way forms part of agriculture. This bulldozer is there but it has not been available for use in Malabar. Now I have received a communication that four tractors would be sent to Malabar. When I contacted the District Agricultural Officer, Malabar, in this connexion he was not very definite in his replies to my queries as to when he would be able to supply them. I do not know what has happened afterwards. I do not know whether he has been able to supply those four tractors, meant for work in Palghat and other three taluks. This is the main difficulty and this is due to the absence of systematic distribution of things. These are sent to places where there is no need for them whilst those which are in actual need are left uncared for so much so great confusion and irregularity result. So, in the supply of tractors and bulldozers also the districtwar requirements should be assessed first. Supply can be made where necessary and it can be withdrawn the moment it ceases to be useful. As I have already stated, after May 31st, these things are not required in Malabar till December.

“ With regard to the other industries, I think this Government is not doing sufficiently well. I find from the Budget speech that the Government have invested Rs. 40 lakhs, in the Fertilizers and Chemicals, Alwaye. It is good so far as it goes. Fertilizers are an absolute necessity to-day and what we produce now is not at all sufficient for us. The firm in which the Government have invested, cannot supply manure even for two or three districts. So, the Government must support more and more firms engaged in the manufacture of fertilizers. When I say this, I know that the Government have no money to make such large-scale investments. I also know that reference will be made in that connexion to Prohibition to show how much money has been taken away by that scheme. I would make this submission to the House. Do not refer to Prohibition hereafter because that is an idea which came to us some ten or twelve years ago and it has also found a place in the Constitution of India. The State Government launched on this programme long before the new Constitution. Prohibition comes under the directive principles of State Policy in the Constitution and so let us not talk about it hereafter. (Laughter.) It is not simply the economy of the Government that has been taken into consideration. It is the domestic economy of the citizens that is taken into account. As has been stated by the Hon. the Finance Minister, very many families are getting better now after the introduction of this reform and we have also heard the speeches of the various Members confirming the statement of the Finance Minister. Moreover, moral considerations also should make us support it. This reform is introduced in several other States also. So it will only be to the moral and material development of the people if they refrain from drinks. We have succeeded in bringing about this moral and social reform and it is better there is no more reference about it. Then, in what other way are we to find the funds we need and in what other direction can we increase our resources for

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our development? Sir, I have mentioned that so far as industries are concerned they will form a source of revenue if properly worked. To-day we have only one paper mill in the Andhra area under the Government. Why not we start another paper mill now in Malabar where there is plenty of bamboos available in the Western ghats? If a paper mill is established there, it will certainly flourish and produce sufficient quantities of paper required for consumption in our State. I have definite views on the question of nationalization of industries. In the case of the paper mill, as it has not been started by any private individual I advocate its being started by the Government, if need be, by getting rich people to invest a portion of the capital. In this case, in view of the Government's interest in the industry, private capital may come forward for investment. I know of instances wherein very many companies started by very many persons have resulted in loss and subsequent liquidation. So the people are not prepared to start any industry themselves but if the Government express any interest in anything they may come in and join them. At the same time, I would advise the Government not to take over any concern or industry which has already been established and developed simply on the ground that it is the capitalists who have started it. Sometimes, Sir, we are vague in our ideas and ideologies. It is no use attempting to follow what Russia or the United States of America or for that matter England says and practises. We must have our own views and policies. If we are going to throw away capitalism, there is no harm if we do it at once and for ever. Let us be precise. If you want let us be completely socialistic and work in that direction. If we are not going to do that let us act in such a manner as to derive from capitalism such good as is possible. If we are not prepared to do either of these thoroughly, it is better not to speak about it. The difficulty is vague speeches appear in newspapers. The capitalists are not satisfied. The Socialists are not satisfied and the Communists have nothing to be satisfied with. The Congress party must therefore put all the three view-points together and formulate a clear-cut policy. Unless we do this no section of the community can be satisfied. So far as the capitalists are concerned, the Central Budget has given them some satisfaction. But the middle class has started grumbling. I would, therefore, request the Government to have a very definite policy so far as the industrial programme is concerned so that the capitalists may start working on their industries, big or small, with some confidence that they are not going to be overthrown at any future date"

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Are the public to understand from the hon. Member's speech that the Government have no clear-cut policy and that everybody is dissatisfied with the Government? "

1 P.m. * SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" The thing is this. There are persons who are not capitalists, who are not Socialists and who are not Communists. Are they not to be satisfied? The Government may have a clear-cut policy but they have not definitely stated it. That is only an error in expression, an error on emphasis. If

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it is emphatically and clearly stated, people will be satisfied. I know as a matter of fact, this Government is a socio-capitalist Government. That is to say, it is a mixture of the two. There are some virtues in both. Combine them so that a proper thing might be fabricated out of it. That is the position and I want the Government that this should be clearly and definitely stated. Just do it and go on with your work. That will bring satisfaction to all."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Perhaps, the Member's point is that the Government are incompetent to state the point clearly."

* SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" I never jump to conclusions. I will request the Leader of the Opposition not to jump too much and come to a wrong conclusion."

" I have already stated that so far as Malabar is concerned more attention should be paid in providing irrigation facilities. I don't want to say it was absolutely neglected so far. For the past three or four years it is getting some attention. I don't want to blame the Minister or the party for that. They thought that God would help us. God was not pleased to help us always and every year we lost . . . (Interruption.) So, I am trying to get help in this manner by calling on you that you must pay more attention. With regard to irrigation, there are so many schemes which have been considered, some sanctioned and some carried out. With regard to the rest it may be that the Minister concerned may take them up and may do what is necessary. What I stress is that immediate attention is necessary. The rain water there, unlike in other places, finds its resting place easily in the sea. It will never rest on the ground for a minute. The moment it falls to the ground, it flows into the sea. The level of the country is like that, and that is our difficulty. So sufficient and immediate attention should be paid to conserve rain water for irrigation. The sooner you do it the better for you also. Otherwise you will have to find food for our people. You will have to get paddy or rice from other places. Some friends were complaining the other day that all the paddy in their districts were being sent to Malabar. We can certainly avoid such difficulties to such friends by finding the food necessary for our sustenance. I therefore request Government to take particular care and immediate action in regard to irrigation projects in Malabar."

" With regard to the distribution of electricity I have to make the same complaint. The Pykara installation is probably very near to us but the electricity is far far away from us. (Interruption.) Of course electricity can pass in other directions also but passes more in different directions than in the direction of Malabar. You can have electricity from one end of Malabar to the other. There are so many swift-moving rivers which will supply water, but there are no means to lift the water. If you give electricity they will obtain pumps and lift water from these rivers and more crops would be cultivated in Malabar. With regard to industries, the Thermal electrical station at Kozhikode is lying idle. The Pykara System now supplies electricity. If this fails to give sufficient quantity to

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Kozhikode, everything there would suffer. If you take up the Thermal station which is not now being worked, it will be helpful to industries and agriculture also. The owners are not working it as they are not getting some machinery and so on for the plant. The owners may probably be willing to sell it and the Government can purchase it cheaply.

"Another thing that I want for Malabar is a Women's College. I have been crying hoarse every time I was talking on the Budget. (Interruption.) If you open one Women's College, very many studying in Madras, Palghat, Tellicherry and other places will be benefited and it will be a good thing. (Interruption.) Co-education, I think, according to the present-day reports of the Educationists on co-education, is not proper. At one time it was thought to be good. I think people have now gained wisdom and have come to the conclusion that co-education is not good. This is the experience of some of us there. (Interruption.) I am not an ancient. I am for change in anything if the change is for the better.

"With regard to hospitals, I would like to give you only one instance. If any of the Hon. Ministers happens to go to Palghat, I would request him to look at the Palghat hospital. (Interruption.) Kozhikode hospital you are improving. The buildings are coming up. But with regard to Palghat it may take five years, or ten years. (Interruption: 'Does the hon. Member come from Palghat?') I do and I therefore know much about Palghat and the condition of the hospital. (Interruption: 'Are you coming from every district?')

"There is the Victoria College. There is no dearth of students there. So many did not get admission. If you provide proper facilities, you will get students. The students would not suffer and the Government also will not lose much. They may probably gain in course of time. In fact, as I went through the accounts, it is only because of scholarships being given to the children of military people that the college has shown a deficit. Otherwise it would never be a deficit one. So you can improve it. What is the use of mentioning this at all? No attention is being paid to it and it is with great difficulty that we got something out of the Government for the college.

"Another important thing so far as Malabar is concerned at the present juncture is that the Police must be strengthened. This is necessitated because of the political conditions now prevailing, our relation with Pakistan and the Communist menace. These two things will have a very bad influence in Malabar and I pray that the Police and the Malabar Special Police should be strengthened and you should avoid the occurrence of 1921 or the recent occurrence of Communist rebellion in North Malabar. These cannot be achieved by pious wishes and sentiments. It can be done only by tightening up of the Police and the Malabar Special Police.

"I will refer to one other matter and close. I mentioned about the hospital and so on. I must also say something about the Surgeons and Physicians. Knowledge on medicine is advancing and so also methods of surgery. But these people living in the

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mufassal do not get sufficient instruction or education according to modern developments in various branches of their science. A refresher course at the end of five or three years, say, at the end of every five years, may be given to these people so that they may pick up what is passing on by way of development in other countries.

“ Now, Sir, I have taken more than a few minutes allotted to me. There is nothing more to be said on the Budget. I thank the Hon. Finance Minister for having produced this Budget.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the first concern of a Government is the welfare of the people (interruption) and perhaps the only concern of the Government is the welfare of the people. From that point of view the Budget presented by the Finance Minister is a failure; I won't say, hopeless. The Hon. the Finance Minister regretted that no encomiums were showered on him for this Budget in this House also. Sir, so far as I have seen, people who supported the Budget, supported it with reservation. But I would suggest to the Hon. the Finance Minister that whatever criticisms are offered on the floor of this House by Members are really congratulations if he bears them with a recipient ear and the heart to do good to the people. I know personally that the Hon. Finance Minister is a gentleman who has got the welfare of the people in his heart but there are difficulties in his way and he has to carry on the administration. If he only wills, I think he can carry on the administration in a satisfactory way to the people of this State.

“ It is said that there is no fresh taxation. I entirely agree with some of my friends who feel that there is no further scope or possibility for further taxation. The poor man has been fleeced to the greatest possible extent and there is no possibility of further taxation. It is not possible for the Hon. the Finance Minister or any other Minister to tax him further. That is the reason for not resorting to fresh taxation and not because they have sympathy or any idea of doing good to the people. It is only due to the helplessness of the Government to tax the people further. The Government of India wanted to give some relief to the poor people in the matter of foodstuffs and some other articles of necessity, but the Finance Minister has entered his protest. He says in his Budget speech :

‘ I hope that the Government of India will realize how sudden changes in their policy are a source of embarrassment to State Governments in implementing their plans, and that they will find it possible to revive their assistance in the form originally contemplated at least from 1951-52 onwards.’ (Paragraph 21 of the speech.)

Sir, it is a wrong reading of the policy of the Government of India. It is a misrepresentation. The Government of India really want to do some little good to the people, but the Hon. the Finance Minister here says that he should have his pound of flesh. The poor people are groaning under heavy taxation; their food, clothing and roofing are all taxed. These are the three most important and basic necessities of life for the people. If these are either denied to them or made so dear that people cannot afford to get them, and

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if any Government is not able to provide these three elementary necessities of life to the people, then that Government should say, 'Well, let us quit and let other people do the job.' "

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" They have not taxed air so far."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Give us a scheme."

* JANAB ADBUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" The Hon. the Finance Minister is sometimes humorous. He wants a scheme from us. We know that with his ingenuity he is more capable of formulating schemes than other people. But all the schemes are exhausted and there is no possibility of any further scheme of taxation unless we want to drive the people to revolt. This gives an opportunity to the other people to create disaffection among the masses. We indirectly help those whom we call Communists. We have condemned their activities, but unfortunately our mode of taxation and administration and Government, instead of curbing the activities of these people and rooting them out for ever, is helping them. The man in the street, the poor man, the common man who has been denied many facilities feels that it is better that he co-operates with those people. By common man I mean the poor man who gets an income of Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 a month."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Who is this common man? Who is this Kamadhenu of the Opposition? "

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" He is the person getting an income of Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 and who is now denied most of the necessities of life."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, could you kindly purchase a dictionary for the use of the Chief Whip of the Government, who is also the editor of a newspaper? "

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" I want the Hon. the Finance Minister to realize the position. After all, in this Legislature, all the Members are interested in the good administration of the Government and we want to see that the people are satisfied with the administration. It is far from our minds to create a situation in which the Government should be discredited. Therefore, in the interests of the Government, the Legislature and the people, it is better that the Government formulate policies in a manner which will satisfy the poor man whose income is very meagre.

" Sir, the most important necessity of man is food. What have we done with regard to food? The Hon. the Food Minister is not here. Our deficit is 12 lakhs of tons of foodgrains. The Government of India promised 3 lakhs of tons and are now prepared to give more. What about the remaining deficit of 9 lakhs of tons? It is for the Hon. Minister to answer how he proposes to meet that deficit. Sir, the manner in which we have been carrying on the Government is talked about not only here but outside also. In the Parliament, Mr. Satishchandra of Uttar Pradesh has said :

' Some States are not utilising the food subsidies granted by the Union Government for the benefit of the consumer. Madras is using the food subsidy to finance its Prohibition programme.'

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That may not be correct, but the feeling outside is that we are not handling our food position in a manner worthy of the State and worthy of the Government, and conducive to the good of the people. That is why there is this talk outside. It may be that this speech I referred to is based on misinformation, but have we utilized the subsidy that has been granted to us by the Government of India completely? I shall now refer to paragraph 21 of the speech of the Finance Minister :

‘ For post-war development and Grow-More-Food schemes, this Government have not fully utilized the Government of India’s grant for 1947-48 and 1948-49. It means that the bonus is not fully utilized for the purpose for which it was meant and the Government of India have curtailed the grant. It is for the State Government to utilize the grant fully and then ask for more.’

Therefore, we have now lost an opportunity of getting more grants from the Government of India and thereby improving our food position.

“ So far as clothing and housing are concerned, every Member of the House is aware that people are short of clothing and houses.

“ Sir, in paragraph 5 of his Budget speech, the Hon. the Finance Minister says that the final accounts of the year 1948-49 showed a small deficit of Rs. 4.90 lakhs, against a deficit of nearly Rs. 366 lakhs anticipated in the Revised Estimate for the year. The large difference shows that the Budget has not been carefully prepared.

“ In paragraph 6 of the speech, it has been said that the Revised Estimate of Revenue for 1949-50 is Rs. 116 lakhs more than the Budget figure of Rs. 55.75 lakhs and the Revised Estimate of expenditure is Rs. 72 lakhs more than the Budget Estimate of Rs. 55.66 lakhs. This shows that the Budget has not been carefully prepared. Then again, if our revenue increases by 2 crores, the Finance Minister increases our expenditure by 4 crores. Therefore it is not correct to say that he is cutting his coat according to the cloth.

“ I shall now come to the very important question of Prohibition. I am a confirmed believer in Prohibition. Every hon. Member in this House and in the other House is anxious that this policy of Prohibition should be successful. We have lost about Rs. 20 crores on account of our desire that our people should become more moral and more thrifty. But what is the actual position to-day? Mere legislation without creating a moral sanction among the people that drink is bad, will be of no use. We are only losers to the extent of Rs. 20 or Rs. 21 crores. We have not in the least gained. Almost every house, perhaps not in the City, has now become a place of illicit distillation, a factory. (Interruption.) I said, ‘ Almost every house ’ and therefore my house is an exception.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ There will be many more exceptions.”

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ There may be a few exceptions. But from the manner in which prosecutions are launched and Prohibition offences are punished, what do we find? In South Arcot alone, 296 cases were reported last month. These

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are reported cases. What about cases which are not reported? According to the statement made in the other House by the ex-Minister for Prohibition, Mr. Koti Reddi, even women and children have begun to drink. That was the statement made by a gentleman who was in charge of this department. He said that this programme has failed."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"What is the suggestion of the hon. Member?"

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"My suggestion is that we should be honest to ourselves and admit that this Prohibition policy has failed and therefore we shall not have this policy; or we should enforce it in such a manner that there will be no illicit distillation and nobody could drink. In my own place near Pallavaram, in one small house three persons were arrested for illicit distillation. That house has many sub-tenants. There may be a number of places, a number of villages and towns where this is going on."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"What is the other way to stop it?"

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"The other way is to be thought of by the Government. When the Justice Party was in power, they appointed propagandists to inculcate moral principles in the people and tell them that drink is bad. Now there are no propagandists; there are only people who prosecute them. There is no Code of Morality for these people to act upon."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"In other words, the Government are putting the cart before the horse."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"Where in the world, except where religious sanction is available, have they stopped drink by legislation? America has failed. If you want that Prohibition should be successful, you must create a sense of morality among the people. If you do not create that sense of morality, we are losers in two respects, one in the loss of revenue we got out of Excise and the other in that we are making the people drink more and more of injurious drink or poisonous drink prepared by illicit distillation. These are the two dangers that we are facing on account of this Prohibition policy without having a plan and programme for its enforcement."

"Sir, we must be frank. Let us not take shelter either under the name of religion or under the name of some pledges we gave at the time of the elections. Let us be honest and frank and say that this has failed and that we must make an attempt some time hence."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"We cannot expect the Government to do that."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"The Government of India have not enforced Prohibition everywhere."

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is a provincial subject."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" They can direct the States to enforce Prohibition. On the contrary, if the press reports are correct, the Hon. the Prime Minister has advised the State Ministers, particularly the Madras Ministers, to go slow with their policy."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I suppose the hon. Member accepts Pandit Nehru's advice on betting also."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Whether I accept it or not, that is not the question. The Government of Madras have accepted it. I am not a lawyer, but I personally feel that this Government have not got the power to extend an Act of Legislature by notification. When once the Government announced that this Betting Act would come into force on the 1st April 1950, the Act has become complete . . ."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Before the hon. Member resumes his speech, I should like to clear one misunderstanding that has crept in the morning. When Sri Manathunai-natha Desigar was speaking, he stated that Government should remove the sales tax from newspapers. I thought the Constitution Act has already come into force on the 26th of January and the tax will be regulated according to its provisions; but there is another Article there, Article 277, under which the Government can continue to levy the sales tax and all taxes which they were levying before the 26th of January 'until provision to the contrary is made by Parliament by law'. Such a contrary provision has not been made so far, and so we are continuing to levy the sales tax. I wanted to clear this misunderstanding that has crept in the morning."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I was referring in my speech to the notification issued by the Government regarding the prevention of betting on horse races. I only want to inform the hon. Member—for his information I am saying this—there is a talk that a test case can be put on this question, whether the Government is competent to extend an Act by notification. The Act was there and it was provided in the Act that the Government would announce the date of enforcement of the Act by notification; and when once that notification was made, is the Government competent to make another notification to extend the Act? That is a point for the information of the hon. Member; I do not know how far it is possible for the Government to do that."

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ What about the test case? ”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ It will be on the question whether the Government can extend the Act by notification, once the notification of the date of enforcement has already been made.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ But what about the test case? ”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ The Federal Court seems to have held that the Government cannot extend an Act by notification. That is only by the way.

“ I was speaking about Prohibition and the consequences of prohibition. I once attended a meeting of the District Prohibition Committee of Chingleput district. It was pointed out that the tappers who were thrown out of employment were provided with employment by being allowed to tap sweet toddy and converting it into gur (jaggery). I asked the officers concerned what the amount of income would be for each tapper per month; and the reply was astonishing, that each tapper would get Re. 1 per month. We can now easily understand how this unemployment question is being solved. It is only playing with the lives of the people. The Government should seriously consider whether this unemployment question also should not be solved along with other questions, in order that people may live in happiness and contentment.

“ I shall now come to the question of income-tax, i.e., the share of the tax given to this State Government by the Central Government. This share was 18 per cent, and the Deshmukh award reduced it by half per cent. According to the income we are having for the present year, it is 18 per cent. I do not know how the Hon. Finance Minister has put the same figure for the coming year also, viz., 1950-51.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The tax that will be realized by the Government of India is expected to be more next year.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ I do not know whether that could be correct. The Government of India are giving some relief to the poor which will involve a deficit of about Rs. 15 crores; there must therefore be a proportionate deficit in the income derived from the income-tax also. Anyway I do not know how the Government of India have provided for an increased amount, and I do not know also whether this State Government and the Government of India are working jointly in this matter.

“ Now I shall turn to another pet subject to the Hon. Finance Minister. It is the Provincial Transport. The anticipated revenue under this head is Rs. 4 lakhs. I do not know what the capital investment on this adventure is. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi : ‘ Rs. 60 lakhs ’.) I am told it is Rs. 60 lakhs; I do not know whether this account has been audited. On this Rs. 60 lakhs

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capital, an income of Rs. 4 lakhs is very meagre. It must therefore be left to private enterprise; Government should not try to dabble in these things and waste their time unnecessarily. This income of Rs. 4 lakhs can only be got by an increase in the rate of fares. This would not be allowed if private enterprise were allowed to run the buses; the Government would not allow it to raise the rate of fares as and when it liked. Every time a revision was made, without the people knowing it, the fares have been raised. I have myself had experience of this and have told the Hon. Finance Minister about it; but he denied it and afterwards I brought some figures and showed them to him. The Government can at any time increase the rate of fares; and even if there is a loss, the Government are at liberty to show to the people that there is a gain. If, however, private enterprise were allowed to run this, it may not be possible. A private company cannot increase the rate of fares without the permission of the Government. Here the Government themselves are the Judges and they themselves are the people to decide the rates. I have always had this feeling that the Government should not interfere in matters like this. Nationalization will not be useful to the Government in the long run, nor will it be conducive to the interests of the public.

"In this connexion, I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to the suffering and hardships of the taxi-owners in this City. They are now being fleeced. The Hon. Finance Minister in spite of all our criticisms and in spite of our attacks against him, has got a soft heart not only for the Members of the Legislature, but for the people outside. Though outwardly he appears to be somewhat stern, he has a soft heart . . ."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"I am afraid if the Hon. Finance Minister has a soft heart to the Members of this House, he will be guilty of partiality."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"Having a soft heart is not partiality. The taxi-owners who are about 300 in number—I do not know the exact number—are suffering great hardships. First of all, the taxi-owner is asked to replace his taxi in ten years by a new taxi. In the same breath the officials breathe hot and cold; in one order they say the taxi-owner should replace the taxi in ten years, and in another order they say that ten years is not the limit if it is in good condition. This ten years' limit was fixed by the foreign British Government in order that the taxis which are used now may be declared to have become useless in ten years' time, so that their own motor companies in England and America may find a good sale for their products, by arranging for their imports into this country, and so that they may be the gainers. But we have Independence now and it is necessary that some consideration should be shown to these people. If a taxi is in order, if it can work, if there are no complaints from the public and the public do not say they are being put to hardship, why should these taxi-owners be asked to renew their taxis every now and then? And what is the income from these taxis? I understand a petition has been submitted by these people to the officials

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and a copy of it has also been sent to the Hon. Finance Minister. The income from a taxi, after deducting all expenditure but without deducting the cost of wear and tear, is Rs. 3 per day. Seventy gallons of petrol is given to each taxi per month, that is to say, less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons to be used every day; and on that the income is about Rs. 3. I do not want to take the Hon. Finance Minister into the details; but as one who is himself running the transport service, as one who is in charge of Government transport, who has the portfolio of transport with him, he will know the difficulties of these people. The daily income of the taxi-owner is Rs. 3, as I said, or Rs. 90 per month or Rs. 1,080 per year. In the course of ten years, he gets Rs. 10,800 and out of that he has to pay the registration charges, let alone the wear and tear. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'I think it is after allowing for depreciation'.) No, I have the details here.

"Details of income per day for $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons petrol at an average of As. 8 per mile for 35 miles a day—Rs. 17-8-0.

Expenditure—

	RS.	A.	P.
Cost of $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of petrol	6	2	9
Driver per day	3	0	0
Batta	1	0	0
Cleaner	1	8	0
Tax	0	14	0
Insurance	1	0	0
Shed	0	8	0
Battery charges	0	5	3
Total	14	6	0

The balance left over is Rs. 3-2-0; and from this the owner has to bear, wear and tear and registration charges every six months. In addition to all this, he is asked to renew his taxi after ten years and purchase a new car; he is not even allowed to sell the car until and unless he purchases a new car and when he sells that car, he cannot even get Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 thousands and by adding another Rs. 10 or Rs. 12 thousands, he has to purchase a new car for Rs. 15,000. Where is the income for all this? Are you going to sit quiet and see that there is no taxi in the City of Madras after some time? Therefore, this point has got to be borne in mind. I submit, Sir, these people deserve consideration at the hands of the Government.

2-45 P.m. "Then, Sir, section 60 of the Motor Vehicles Act imposes more difficulties on these people. I would therefore appeal to the Hon. Minister in charge of law to see that the Act is amended to the extent to which relief can be given to these people. According to the Act, if any contraband article is brought in a taxi it is not the driver that is charged but it is the owner of the taxi. On the other hand, if some contraband article is brought in a ship, you do not charge the ship-owner, neither do you charge the railway company

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nor the Government if contraband articles are brought in the railway. You do not charge the Hon. Finance Minister if some contraband article is brought in the Government Transport bus either. Such being the case, why should the poor taxi-owner who is sitting somewhere else be charged? In fact he has left everything in charge of the driver and how can the owner be held responsible for bringing the contraband article. Sometimes we have seen reports in the papers that women bring articles on their person and as they are women they are not searched. Therefore, Sir, in matters like this it should be the concern of the Government to see that these people are given some relief so that they are not harassed for something done by somebody else and for which they are not responsible.

"Now, Sir, coming to the question of electricity, it is more than three months since I made a request to the Hon. Minister in charge of the Electricity Department to see that electricity is extended to South Tambaram. But, I understand that nothing has been done in this respect up till now. I once again request the Hon. Minister in charge to see that this is done as early as possible.

"Then, Sir, with regard to irrigation, in paragraph 25 of the Budget speech of the Hon. Finance Minister, he has stated that 177 irrigation schemes have been sanctioned from April 1946 to September 1949. I would ask him, how many of these have actually been taken up for execution and how many completed? Are the Government completing these schemes with any programme for each year? Sir, these are questions which require clarification and explanation.

"In regard to Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift they have made an initial allotment of 4 crores. During the current year they have provided 10 crores for which there is no necessity, particularly when the previous allotment itself has not been fully utilized and there still remains a balance of more than two crores. This being a fund, the allotment should be restricted to the actual needs and requirements of the current year because the unspent amount should be surrendered to the Government at the end of the year. Of course, I am not against Harijan Uplift; I am certainly in favour of it, but when the money allotted is not actually spent and there is a surplus of two crores, why should some more allotment be made and added to it especially when there is no necessity for it? Of course, if there is any necessity something more can be given. I do not object to that."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We cannot draw upon the Revenue Reserve Fund all of a sudden whenever there is need for it and so we wanted to make contributions every year."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"I am now coming, Sir, to the West and South Tambaram Town-Planning Scheme. This scheme was notified in 1931 and actually sanctioned by the Government in 1938 and as the original scheme could not be

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carried out, a revised scheme was drawn up by the Town-Planning Officer, but it has not yet been sent to the Government. The district board has not carried out any improvement in the locality because South Tambaram has been classified as a slum area and it is rarely visited by any officer. The formation of a major panchayat covering the town-planning area was also notified in 1949 and it has actually been formed into a major panchayat. But it has to comply with town-planning requirements also and though it has actually been formed into a major panchayat the town-planning area has not been handed over to the panchayat by the district board in pursuance of the order issued by the Government in the Education and Public Health Department. So, when this area has not been handed over the panchayat ceases to be a major panchayat, but it is levying house-tax while the district board has come up recently with a levy of betterment-tax in the area though no improvement has been done either by the panchayat or by the district board. This system of dual control should be abolished forthwith and the area should be handed over to the panchayat.

"I now come to one of the most important questions that affects the very life of our citizens in this State and that is in regard to education. I think, Sir, the number of children that ought to attend schools should be approximately about half the population, that is $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores, but only about 35 lakhs of children are now attending the schools. There are no primary schools in thousands of villages. Of course, I speak subject to correction."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"The number of children of the school-going age attending the schools is 7,000,000."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"I do not know how this figure has been arrived at. Of course the Hon. Minister may be correct, but how it is only such a small number of children of school-going age are attending schools?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I would like the hon. Member to read further down. The figure represents children between 5 and 12 years of age and it does not take into account children up to 5 years of age, because they cannot go to school. The figure we have got of the number of children going to school between 5 and 12 is 7,000,000."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"Is the Hon. Minister sure that children after they reach 12 are not to be educated? Now, Sir, I speak subject to correction. There are no schools—at least this fact will be conceded by the Hon. Minister—in thousands of villages in our State. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon : 'In 3,500 villages.') It is a disgraceful fact to say that in a State like ours where we want to have adult franchise in a year or two, there are 3,500 villages without schools. I think it is hardly to be imagined that a nation which has got no schools in 3,500 villages can progress when we get adult franchise within the next year, or in two years or even ten years later."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"It is much better than in other States."

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* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ Sir, whatever may be the condition in the other States of India, we are only concerned with our State. I say it is the duty of the Government and particularly of the Hon. Minister in charge of Education to see that not a single village is left, at least, without a primary school, leaving aside secondary school or college. Sir, only the other day I read in the papers that even the most moderate request by the President of the District Board of Cuddapah was turned down by the Government, the request being that the second-grade college there should be converted into first-grade.

“ I now come to the pet subject of our great leader, the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and that is in regard to Basic Education. There was a conference presided over by no less a person than the Mahatmaji himself—I refer to the All-India National Education Conference. I read from the Report of the Committee appointed by the Central Advisory Board of Education. The All-India National Education Conference which was convened at Wardha in October 1937 under the Presidentship of Gandhiji to consider his proposed scheme of self-supporting education passed the following resolution—I will read only the resolution relating to free and compulsory education :—‘ That free and compulsory education be provided for seven years on a nation-wide scale ’.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ It is in the Constitution itself.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ Yes, it is also in the Constitution. Article 45 of Part IV says :

‘ The State shall endeavour to provide within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the year of fourteen years.’

Of course, the Constitution provides for that. Then let us see what the Hon. Minister for Education says, not here, but somewhere else. It is for him to contradict it if it is wrong. I shall only make a passing reference to the speech he made because there is no use harping upon elementary education because unless we provide a sufficient amount for the teachers giving them sufficient salary, it will not be satisfactory. He is reported to have said :

‘ If more children were to attend schools where was the space for them and where were the teachers. Experts said 4,000 more B.T.’s were needed to man the existing schools. Even if the entire revenues of the province were set apart for education it would not be enough for free and compulsory education.’

Sir, are we to understand from this that this is a phantom or a real thing.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ The hon. Member should read what I said down below in the report.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ I will read it. Of course, I am not going to suppress anything from the speech of the Hon. Minister. Are we to understand from it that there is no possibility of free and compulsory primary education?

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“ Then, Sir, the Hon. Minister goes on to say—I shall do justice to him by reading in full what he has stated. He further says: ‘ The only way to make elementary education free and compulsory was by recovering at least 20 to 30 per cent of the cost from the schools ’.

“ Is that what we mean by free and compulsory education? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ It is by introducing courses which will be paying and not collecting it from the students. It is not right to quote me like that if the hon. Member does not quote fully.”

3 p.m. * JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ Sir, I do not know whether it will be possible to run the schools out of the earnings of small children. I would even go to the extent of saying if it is the question of earnings of the children themselves, it ought to go to the children for their maintenance, food, clothing and their other necessities or to their parents. Government should not take away their money and then say we are giving you free education. Are you justified in calling it free education? Therefore, Sir, if we are really to be proud of our great leader, Mahatma Gandhi, it is up to us to see that there is free and compulsory education at an early date.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Dr. Gurubatham will answer you.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ I think we have to find some means of finance for it. I would not feel sorry if Government were to increase the tax for that, and I would not grudge to pay it. For, as was stated by the Prime Minister of India, we are to have general elections in 1951 on adult franchise, and so are we to keep the electors in ignorance? If we do so, how can we expect them to exercise their vote in the best manner to the well being of the country? Sir, as things stand, we run the risk of making them exercise their vote in a manner which would overthrow any Government or any party which would do at least some good, and bring in a Government which would do only harm to all. Sir, in this connexion, I would also stress that the pay of teachers should be considered. Sufficient pay should be given to them to enable them to make both their ends meet..

“ Then, Sir, I would like to refer to the resolution passed by the Secretariat Association three days back—people who are working under our very nose here. (Sri B. Narayanaswami Naidu : ‘ No, over our heads! ’) Certainly, they are the people who are over our heads for, without them, we cannot work. They have passed a resolution requesting that they may be paid dearness allowance at the Government of India rate and to revise the scales of pay of the Secretariat staff. This resolution was passed on Friday last. (Interruption.) The Association understands that it is not possible for Government to give this on account of want of finance. I do realize the difficulties of Government. All the same it is for us to make the demand, and it is for the

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Government to say whether they can meet this demand. What I say is, there is another *modus vivendi* in this matter. The Association wants Government to appoint a committee to inquire into the realities of the situation, whether they deserve it or not. If we ask for that, does it mean that we are unmindful of the difficulties of the Government or does it mean that we are unmindful of the difficulties in which those people are working? So I appeal to the Hon. Premier and to the Cabinet as a whole to appoint a committee of Judges of the High Court to inquire into their conditions. That resolution in fact requests the appointment of an impartial and independent tribunal consisting of High Court Judges to examine the present scale of pay and dearness allowance of the Secretariat staff. (Interruption.) Government may appoint any independent body. In order that the Government may not say, that the members were influenced by the persons affected the latter want the highest personalities in the judiciary in the land to go into the question whether they deserve the increased demands. Or, the committee may consist of any responsible person in the land who would not do any injustice to anybody. Any member of this House may be appointed as the chairman of that committee. So the only question is, appoint a committee to see whether these people deserve what they demand."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Where to find the money?"

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"You can tax further. Last time I suggested Government have got several white elephants in their departments, officers getting twice and thrice the salary of the Ministers. Why should they draw a higher salary than the Ministers? The Minister is the highest official in the State; and why should any man get a salary higher than him?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Ministers come and go; but officers must have to remain for twenty to thirty years."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"If Ministers come and go, Ministers also have to live. They cannot live without sufficient money; and if a salary of one thousand and five hundred rupees including allowances is sufficient for Ministers, it is sufficient for any official who has to remain here for thirty years, or if he lives, as people lived in the days of Adam, for 300 years."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Is it sufficient for the Leader of the Opposition?" (Laughter.)

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The Leader of the Opposition may not be discussed in this connexion." (Laughter.)

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"I am afraid the Leader of the Opposition will be able to maintain only for a few years. If he is not considerate to the requirements of other people, other people may have to eat away all his income."

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ And perhaps they will use him also as happened in so many cases.” (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ The hon. Member has taken sixty minutes.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ I have got only one or two points more.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ But he has usefully taken up all that time ! ”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ I shall refer now to public health. With regard to the speech of the Hon. Finance Minister in paragraph 24, I have to submit that there are no dispensaries in many villages. In hundreds of villages, in thousands of villages there are no dispensaries. There is a paucity of doctors, nurses and midwives. Pregnant women, in many cases, either die or suffer much; and there is increase in child mortality. Tuberculosis, in the words of the Health Minister of India, is on the increase; and that is particularly so among young women. Now, what is the allotment for Public Health in the budget. It is very very meagre. Therefore I submit this question requires consideration by the Hon. Finance Minister.

“ Sir, I do not want to state anything about the Communist trouble or the difficulties of Government with regard to the disturbances going on. But I assure Government that we are wholeheartedly with the Government in the matter of maintaining peace and tranquillity in the province.

“ Then, Sir, there are only two more points I wish to deal with; one of which is with regard to the allegations against the Ministry.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ They would take care of themselves.”

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ I am glad they would take care of themselves. But as it is a matter concerning all, I wish to refer to it here. I only wish that we should not wash our dirty linen here because the honour of a Minister is the honour of the House. I have not heard of any Minister spoken with disrespect during the days of the Justice Party regime, or the Executive Councillors being vilified during the days of British Government. Why should our Ministers be put to this indignity? I appeal to the members responsible to resolve their differences inside their own group because it is our own honour that is concerned in the affair and because the Ministers represent the Legislature, just as we represent the people in the Legislature. I would stop with that on this point.

“ Then, there is only one thing, and that is with regard to the appeal made by Mr. Narayana Menon. He made a reference to the disturbances somewhere outside India. Sir, we live here like a happy family. All communities live in perfect harmony.

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So I would appeal to Mr. Narayana Menon, who is a very good friend of mine—I have got very great respect for him, and I love him."

AN HON. MEMBER :—" You love him ! "

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" There is no real friendship unless there is real love behind it. He is a lovable person." (Laughter.)

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Perhaps in his younger days many might have made love to him ! " (Laughter.)

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Sir, he referred to incidents happening outside India. I request him not to do so either on the floor of the legislature or outside. Sir, we, Hindus and Muslims and all communities live here like brothers. We are a happy family here. All of us condemn the atrocities committed against helpless people, helpless minorities either in East Bengal or in West Bengal or in any part of the world. We certainly shall not sympathize with anybody who is the aggressor. So, why should we be reminded of things committed outside India, and why should he ask the Government on that score to strengthen the Police force either in Malabar or in any part of this State. Does it mean that there is still alarm or suspicion with regard to the loyalty of any minority, particularly the Muslim community? I appeal to my friends to dispel that suspicion from their minds. We are here; we shall live here and God willing we shall die here; we are faithful to this Government, faithful to this Constitution, and our loyalty shall never be extra-territorial or extra-Indian. So such things as Mr. Narayana Menon said will only wound the feelings of people who live here. If there is any necessity for Police bandobust, by all means do it. But do not instil fear in the minds of people and terrorise them and say while such and such things have happened elsewhere, be on your guard and put Police force here and there.

" With regard to the Mental Hospital I have to say a few words. It is a big institution. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon : ' A bigger institution than ours. ') (Laughter.) That institution belongs to this Government. Perhaps it is the only institution of its kind in the State. There are a number of patients there. The Superintendent cannot look to the entire work himself. His staff is only small; and so he cannot go into the details of the administration of the hospital. So his staff has to be increased. Such of the staff as are there are housed in the hospital itself; and so there may be contamination. There may be contamination, their mind and body may be affected, their wives and children may be affected. Therefore they should not be allowed to have their residence inside the compound of the hospital. They should be provided with quarters outside but very near the hospital. The quarters that they now occupy may be utilized for accommodating the patients. I request the Government to remove these two difficulties felt in regard to the Mental Hospital.

3-15
p.m.

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"I thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, for giving me this much of time and I know that you have been a little bit impatient. I also thank the Hon. Finance Minister whom we criticize severely but who takes our criticism in very good spirit. He feels that something should be done. Sometimes he is able to do things provided there is opportunity for him. What I say is that he should create opportunities and not merely wait for opportunities to occur."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"Mr. Deputy Chairman, reading this budget speech, I am reminded of the story of Gopanna of Badrachalam and by a strange coincidence our Finance Minister also bears the same name! Everybody knows Gopanna's story. (Hon. Members: 'We do not know'.) At least my Telugu friends will know. For the benefit of those who do not know, I may say that Gopanna was a great devotee of Ramachandra. When he was in the employ of the Nizam for some time, he squandered lakhs and lakhs of State revenues for which he was put in prison. Then he complained to Rama who came to his rescue. The story of our Finance Minister is also a story of squandering of money. Now he has no money and is in the dark unable to find out new sources of getting money. Unfortunately we do not have a Rama to provide him with the necessary money. But he has got a Kamadhenu in the General Sales Tax."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"What is the actual meaning of Kamadhenu?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It means a cow that satisfies all the wants of her possessor."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"The real question is whether this Kamadhenu and the Finance Minister can go together and whether this Kamadhenu will give him the required money. Member after Member has been complaining that he has not made adequate provision for education, this and that. Even with this Kamadhenu, what is our present budgetary position? Referring to Prohibition, the Finance Minister says that it is an 'article of faith' with the Government. I am not bothered about the article of faith. After all, stomach does not live upon faith; it wants grain. He says: 'During these years, the excise revenue which stood at Rs. 16.80 crores in 1945-46 has almost vanished'. This is achievement number one of Gopanna's administration! He further says: 'The Madras Government do not regret the loss of this revenue, as they believe that it has been more than made up by the increase in the general standard of living of the poorer people'. How has the standard of living increased? He says that to cover the anticipated deficit of rupees 391 lakhs for 1949-50, the following changes in taxation were made during the year. An increase in the rates of tax under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. He wants the poor clerk who wants to go to his office to pay more for bus fare. An increase in the rate of tax on food and drink sold in hotels. He wants a person

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who takes some food or drink to pay more. The levy of a tax at one-half of one per cent in the rupee at a single point on sales of raw cotton. A man who wants to purchase cloth has to pay more. Who is paying all these taxes? Is it the drunkard? There is a saying in Telugu :

తాగేవాడు పెట్టుకుంటాడు తాళ్లపన్ను'

What is the effect of this Gopanna's administration? A tax on bus journeys, a tax on bread, a tax on cloth! As is usual with the Madras shepherd, this Gopanna milks the cow to the last drop of milk without leaving anything for the calf. Is this administration to be regretted or applauded?

"I know the Hon. Finance Minister is intolerant of opposition. Consciously or unconsciously, he has put in the sentence: 'I hope that all Members of this House will help the Government by constructive criticism only, appreciating the limitations within which the Government have to function and their achievements, without unduly magnifying the things that still remain to be done.' We should not magnify what remains to be done and we should help him by constructive criticism only! When we say that these taxes should not be levied, is it constructive or destructive or is it that we are helping him only to give a clue to explore the last drop of milk or blood in the cow?

"I want the hon. Members to seriously consider the financial position of the Madras Government. Are their revenues sufficient to cover the allotment for school teachers and others and to meet the immediate commitments, not to speak of long-range programmes which my Hon. Friend may have in view? So far as 1949-50 is concerned, there was a deficit to the tune of crores. I have read the figures only to-day. I am perfectly willing to sit down and accept a contradiction that my statement is wrong."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It may be under Capital Account."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"The heading of paragraph 4 of the Budget Memorandum on which I base my remarks is 'Revenue Account'. It says: 'While the Revised Estimate for 1948-49 anticipated that it would be necessary to transfer a sum of Rs. 366 lakhs from the Revenue Reserve Fund to the Revenue Account to balance the Budget, the accounts for the year show a transfer of a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs only from the Revenue Reserve Fund'."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Rupees 366 lakhs was only what the Revised Estimate for 1948-49 anticipated. But the actual transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund was only 5 lakhs."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"The improvement in the Revenue Account was thus about Rs. 361 lakhs. This is a matter of pure arithmetic. This was mainly the result of some large items of expenditure not being adjusted in the year's accounts as indicated below, partly offset by increased expenditure under

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some heads chiefly under Civil Works (62 lakhs). They did not arrive at the need for transferring this 366 lakhs because under well subsidies, there was an apparent reduction in expenditure of Rs. 137 lakhs, short expenditure of about Rs. 66 lakhs in the Police Department as some items of clothing and equipment were not received in time and even the cost of some articles actually received was not adjusted in the accounts of the year, and less expenditure on Agricultural Department by about Rs. 66 lakhs as the acquisition of lands and building for the Agricultural College, Bapatla, was postponed to 1949-50 and as the provision made for the purchase of tractors was not fully utilized and the cost of pumpsets, pipes, M.B. sheds, etc., was not adjusted in time. If all these items of expenditure had been brought into account, there would have been a deficit of three crores and odd."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"What happened in 1949-50? There was a surplus and that is what I have said in my budget speech."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Whatever it is, what I want to impress upon my Friend is this. Never mind the loss of revenue due to prohibition. Even with all the new and enhanced taxes, are there sufficient funds to meet the demands for higher pay for elementary school teachers and so on? The Finance Minister does not feed the cow but he wants to milk it to the last drop of milk available. Therefore this cry of adult education and other things is absolutely ill-conceived. The only thing that must be insisted upon in our country at this time is the supply of water and electricity, as the hon. Member from Malabar said. The agriculturists must be provided with these two essential things. Only when we feed the hen, the hen can lay eggs and then we can talk of distributing the eggs. The Government simply go on without knowing how to increase production. No proposal for increasing production has been made in the budget speech. I will only deal with two important subjects—law and order, agriculture and irrigation. With regard to agriculture and irrigation, I have not gone through the figures and therefore I will speak only on general points.

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p.m.

"Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister says on page 6 of his budget speech, 'The net result is that the transactions of this year are expected to yield a surplus of Rs. 53 lakhs'. Even with the increased taxation, the Government have got a surplus of only Rs. 53 lakhs. What about the 4,000 school teachers who are only paid a pittance? Why should they not be paid more? Before he made allocations, he should have seen that at least these teachers are paid a little more. You treat them like buffaloes, and take away the milk from them, but you do not want to feed them. Similarly in the matter of taxation, you want to get all the milk from every one of your activities, but you do not want to feed the buffalo. You want to take away as much from the motor transport buffalo as possible, but eventually that buffalo has turned its legs against you, and you get nothing out of it. That is because you do not give anything to these people, but simply take away the

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entire milk from them. Therefore, Sir, I would rather accept the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Narayana Menon and say, let them give something more to these people, and let them give them at least more water and more electricity to carry on their agricultural operations. After all education is not everything.

“ Now, Sir, let me come to law and order. I am glad, Sir, that the Minister for Law and Order, Mr. Madhava Menon is here, because I want to tell him in very plain words that what is now taking place in the districts is not due to the menace of the Communists, but to the menace of a few outlaws, of some Pindaris, and of some Goondas. You should not call them by the name of Communists. I know the origin of it in the Krishna district. When the situation in Hyderabad was getting worse and worse, some two years ago, a number of Razakars used to come from Hyderabad during nights and loot and plunder the people in the border villages of the Indian Union. The Communists also along with them were doing a lot of havoc. Now after the Police action in Hyderabad, many of these Razakars were let loose and they are now going by the name of Communists. But most of the real Communists are under detention. These people are now living in hills and hiding themselves in the interior and it is they who are doing a lot of havoc in those border villages. We have read in history how in ancient times the Pindaris rose and how they lived on plunder and loot of the passers-by and how they murdered people, and all that. They stationed themselves in high-ways and robbed the people who passed through the way and did all sorts of atrocities and barbarities. These people are also of the same type and of the same stock and you should not give them the name of Communists, because there is nothing in common between the Communist ideologies and the deeds of these barbarous outlaws. It is not that they abhor the idea of private property or the distribution of lands among the workers, as the Communists seek to do. Their occupation is merely plunder, loot, arson and dacoity. Let us therefore get out of our minds once for all that these are the deeds of the Communists. It is a menace of what I may call the outlaws. They are beyond the pale of law. In English History, you might have read of what they had done to put down the outlaws in olden days in that country, who were beyond the pale of law. There were certain laws in force in that country, which gave people the power to shoot down such persons whenever they were found. Similarly now, we must give the same power to all the constables and other subordinate officials of the Government in the border to shoot at sight all these people whenever they are seen. The other day I had a talk with the Collector of the Krishna district and he was in entire agreement with this view, namely, to shoot at sight people who raid the villages and commit loot, arson and plunder. That is the only remedy. You know what Churchill and Roosevelt did during the last War when there were so much of submarine menace in the Atlantic Ocean, and when their fleets were threatened by the enemy submarines. They gave a general order to the crew to shoot at sight any vessel that raised its head on the surface. ‘ Shoot at sight ’

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was the order of that day. In respect of these outlaws also, a similar order should be given to the people in the border villages. These outlaws do not deserve any mercy whatever. Public opinion is dead against them and people will certainly welcome an order like this. What happens in the Krishna district now? There are a number of villages in the borders of Krishna—where there is already enough Communist menace and now these outlaws have comfortably settled themselves in the hills and in the interior of the forests. From there they raid the border villages every night and commit all sorts of loot, plunder and murder. No doubt the Police also go and raid these villages in order to see if there are any Communists there. They go there and ask the people who are brothers or brothers-in-law, and sister and sisters-in-law of the Communists and ask them where these Communists are hiding. They threaten them that they would put them to jail if they refuse to give the information. The same night these outlaws enter the village, commit all sorts of atrocities against the very same people and they also threaten them that if they give any information to the police about their whereabouts, they would kill them the next night. So the poor people in the villages are between the devil and the deep sea. It is impossible for the people to live in those villages under such conditions. What could they do? How can these villagers be asked to stand surety to these outlaws, whose objects are simply to plunder and loot. Therefore what I would suggest to the Hon. Minister for Law is this. He has got ample powers and he should give a general order to the police to 'shoot at sight'. That is the order that has now been given by the Collector.

"Then, Sir, there is a much more lamentable and tragic tale in every village in the border, because for every case of shooting by the police, you find 50 murders committed by these outlaws. There are always two parties in the villages in these border areas. One party accuses the other as Communists and both of them kill each other. What they cannot do in public, they want to utilize the help of the police to kill each other. There may be some truth in what each party says, but how can you expect hundreds of murder cases to be brought before courts and tried? Let me give you one instance, Sir. A P.W.D coolie was killed by an R.S.S. man. About hundred persons were charged for it and eventually the number of accused increased to 320 and the case had to be dragged for years together. If you go on taking these cases to criminal courts, there will be no end to these things and courts will be flooded with these cases only. Therefore you must adopt the 'shoot at sight' policy. That is the only solution and that is the only cure for all these evils. There is no use putting these people into jails, after prolonged trials in criminal courts. It will only mean waste of time and money. What is the use of putting these people into jails? What is your jail budget? What is your police budget? In a Democratic and Republican country like this, what is the necessity for going on increasing the police and jail budgets? That is why I say the only cure for these things is—and I have always been telling this to you—to supply each villager with

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firearms and rifles and guns and give him some little training how to use them and ask him to shoot the outlaws at sight, whenever they raid the villages at night. At the same time give the same to every head constable and constable. Perhaps you may tell that these villagers will shoot themselves if guns and rifles are supplied to them. Therefore what I suggest is, supply them with guns in the evenings and collect them in the next morning. Public opinion is indignant over this Pindari menace and therefore nothing will happen if you adopt the suggestion I have given. You must freely give arms and rifles and guns to the villagers who want to protect themselves. Otherwise, they cannot get along with their cultivation and harvest. My hon. Friend on my left has himself applied for a gun licence because he is a great cultivator owning hundreds of acres of land and wanted to have the same for self-protection, but his request has not yet been complied with. Are you going to shut out applications like these, because they might be abused? I submit, Sir, that if you have any misgiving that these people would not use the guns properly, give them some training for a few days and then they will use them all right."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Can the hon. Member handle a rifle?"

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"I say, Sir, that even my hon. Friend Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi must know something about how to use a rifle. There is no use simply laughing at the idea, Sir, because we are dealing with highway men. We are now threatened with the same menace as the Atlantic fleet was threatened and we should adopt the same 'shoot at sight' policy. That policy alone will restore peace and order in the villages. Therefore the free supply of guns and firearms to the villagers, and asking them to deposit the same compulsorily the next day at the police stations, and giving them a general permission to shoot at sight, is the only way to solve this difficult problem, and any other method would only be more expensive and would not bring in any radical results. I make this suggestion, because the maintenance of law and order is very essential at the present juncture. If they want to restore order and create confidence among the people, the Government should adopt this policy. The ordinary law will not be of any use for this purpose.

"Sir, the next point that I want to mention is with regard to agriculture and irrigation. As I have already referred to, what we want is water and electricity. I am glad that the Hon. Minister for Public Works is here. It is to him that I wish to address in particular. The entire food production of this Province is dependant upon proper water-supply and electricity, and it is upon the Hon. Minister for Public Works that great responsibility rests in the matter of supply of adequate water and electricity facilities. He must therefore feel his responsibility and must see to it that he gives adequate water and electricity to the ryots of this Province. They must be given more pumping sets, more oil-engines, more electric sets to draw more water and to raise more crops. He should not say that he has not got enough

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electrical accessories or transformers, plugs, switches and things of that sort. The Grow More Food campaign will never prove a success, unless such facilities are given to the ryots. I am glad that my hon. Friend Mr. Desigar has made a lot of suggestions to the Government for increasing production in agriculture and for bringing more lands under cultivation in his speech this morning. He referred to the most unsatisfactory manner in which seeds were supplied by the Agricultural department during the last three years and also how about 90,000 acres of land were being allowed to go waste in the Trichinopoly district. The Government must be ashamed of such a thing going on in the Agricultural department. If you want to increase production, the most essential thing is that you must supply more seeds and better seeds. In the first year, the Agricultural department supplied 9,000 bags; the next year it was reduced to 7,000 and in the third year it was only 5,000 bags. If this is the manner in which seeds are supplied, what progress can be expected in the Grow More Food campaign? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The intention is that the ryots themselves must be able to multiply the seeds."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" If that were so, what is the use of the Government employing hundreds of agricultural demonstrators and spending lakhs of rupees on agricultural demonstration farms. I say that the Agricultural department is not doing its work properly. That is all I can say about it.

3-45
p.m. " The total cost of the seed will not come to Rs. 3 lakhs. Is this what is called economy? The Agricultural department must be made to realize its responsibility. What is the use of 100 demonstrators if water will not flow into the fields? We have no confidence in the Agricultural department. His Excellency the Governor of Madras in his address stated that the Chief Minister must put himself in contact with the Agricultural department. Is that being done? Can this Agricultural department work in the manner in which it is going on at present with regard to supply of seeds, fertilizers, etc., if the Chief Minister were to sit in judgment over its head? Is it a case of tail moving the head or head moving the tail? It seems that the tail is not only moving the head, but it is so wagging as to strike the head!

" Then, Sir, with regard to pump sets. Again and again this subject has been discussed. The Government have provided for loans to cultivators. Let the Hon. Minister stand up and say how many applications for loans have been received, how many applications were scrutinized, how many have been given loans, and how many are pending with the Government? Cannot the Government give all these details? There is the oil engine and the pump set. Let the Hon. Minister say how many applied for oil engines and pump sets and how many got them. The Government have spent Rs. 5 crores for digging wells. Unless oil engines and pump sets are also supplied, what is the use of spending so much money on wells? The Government have provided for the grant of loans

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to the ryots a sum of Rs. 2,50,000. Is there any sense of proportion in fixing this amount? Last year, the provision was for Rs. 2,55,000, and this year it is Rs. 2,50,000. I pointed out in the last budget that more money should be provided for loans to ryots. Does the Hon. Minister say that if more money is provided, it will not be utilized by the ryots? Will he daresay that if he provided Rs. 5 lakhs or Rs. 10 lakhs, the whole amount will not be utilized? What justification is there for not providing Rs. 10 lakhs or Rs. 15 lakhs for loans to ryots? It is no gratis at all, and it is only a loan. It is met out of the public revenues, and the revenues will be replenished. The Government can advance more moneys to the public by way of loans. Otherwise, there is no use. I ask hon. Members on the other side to say whether this Rs. 2,55,000 is a sufficient contribution in order to help the ryots to get pump sets and oil engines. Is it not ridiculous? I want to know . . . "

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" If there is a demand for more money, it will be provided."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" No, no. These things are not party questions. I am not able to pick up the correct figures now. Last year, it started with one lakh of rupees. The Government provided for Rs. 2,50,000. Ultimately, they disbursed Rs. 2,65,000. Now they are providing for Rs. 2,50,000. Will the Hon. Ministers say what is the total number of applications. If the demand for loans is slackening, I would be a fool to come and cry out here. I would like to be controverted by the Government on this point, if not to-day at least to-morrow. What is the total amount of the loans for pumps and oil engines. Cannot the Minister provide us with those figures? Is it not his duty to do so? Overshadowing all other questions, including the question of law and order, is the supply of electricity and grant of loans to cultivators. Unless this problem is solved, all other questions like adult franchise, compulsory education, and any other development will go to the background. I hope and I do appeal to Government to concentrate their attention on this problem so that, if not to-day, at least to-morrow, they may say 'God is in Heaven, and all is right'."

DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I should congratulate the Hon. the Finance Minister on presenting a balanced budget. In any Government and in any institution, balancing of budgets especially in these days is not an easy affair. I should congratulate the Hon. Minister on presenting us a well-balanced budget. But this does not fully satisfy the expectations of the public. With the advent of the Republic, the public have, with bated breath, been expecting something to happen, and our finances are such that we are not able to satisfy their expectations."

" There had been many criticisms made against Prohibition that good money has been thrown out. I would call this a loose statement, and this statement has been made on the floor of this House and also in the other House. Both the Houses practically

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unanimously voted for total Prohibition. Some of the Members of the Opposition were saying that the Prime Minister of India wanted us to go slow in the matter. In the same breath, they say that we are not able to follow Mahatma Gandhi's ideals. They do not realize that this Prohibition policy is one of the most fundamental foundations of building up the economic condition of the poor villager in the country. We have been criticizing the drink evil in this country, how the income from drink very rapidly increased during the British rule, how the country opposed it, and how education and public health were yoked to the income from drink. We have been saying that we should not exploit human weakness by giving men so much to drink and from the money got out of drink attend to the nation-building activities. People who argue that we have been throwing out good money do not realize what is that good money for. They say that with that money we could meet expenditure on primary education and public health. We all know the evils of drink. To give drink to people and get an income out of it, and then try to dole out a little portion of that to improve their general condition, is worse than trying to help them. This policy of Prohibition has been a fundamental necessity in order to build up society in this country, especially a society that is composed mostly of agricultural villagers. Our population consists of 85 per cent villagers, and if their economic condition is to be improved, it is to be improved by introducing Prohibition. It is not the enforcement of a social reform alone. To build up the economic condition—the foundation of one's life—Prohibition has to be introduced because this was eating into the vitals of family life, and it has been doing very great havoc. People welcomed this Prohibition. To talk now of throwing away good money is only loose talk I should say. We have been discussing this question time and again, and it is time that people talk something more sensible than that. I would like to give a few examples, and I wish that they are recorded.

“One of the outstanding examples that has reached my ears was this. In one village, there have been a number of families. Men came home drunk, and the women added to their drink. The men became senseless and the brothel started. That has been the story of many a village before Prohibition. After Prohibition, the brothel stopped. I say that if that is to be the only one result of Prohibition, it is worth while pursuing Prohibition. It has improved the morality of the men and women in the villages. It is a great achievement for which the country can afford to give up Rs. 17 crores. There is one other factor. People who live in the village—I live in the village and I mix with the villagers very intimately—are said to indulge in illicit distillation. It has been stated on the floor of this House that illicit distillation has become a cottage industry, and it is going in all the houses in the villages. I just challenge any hon. Member to come with me to-day or on any other day for a tour of the country to find out a single drunkard on the way obstructing or quarrelling. Let him show to me the house where illicit distillation is going

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on. It is all loose talk by irresponsible people. When hon. Members talk of illicit distillation as a cottage industry in villages, it transcends my comprehension. I have not come across those people who indulge in illicit distillation. I am anxious to see them, but I am not able to find out. Wherever I go, I see that the economic condition of the people has improved considerably. I could give examples of people who have got back their homes, their cattle and their lands, and are leading a good life. I do not deny the existence of illicit distillation. It is quite true that there is a good deal of it. It is because the people and the leaders who talk loosely are not co-operating sufficiently with the Government, and the Government themselves have to be blamed for not taking effective measures to put down illicit distillation. There has been criticism made that money is being wasted by the Prohibition policy of the Government. What is the money that is being wasted to-day? We have got ameliorative activities. We have got many colonization schemes that are being put into effect. They will all be in full swing in another year. There will be many colonization schemes started. There have been attempts made to appoint propagandists. There have been criticisms that the appointment of these propagandists is all for election purposes. The real purpose of appointing these propagandists is not merely to see to the successful working of Prohibition, but to teach the people improved methods and ways of living better. As Rajaji and Gandhiji put it, it is not enough if Prohibition is introduced. But we should take all steps to improve the villagers' standard of living. It is for this purpose these propagandists are appointed. The propagandists should carry on the work of teaching improved methods of living. It is a laborious process, and it is not an easy one. It is not easy to wean people away from bad habits. But it is very easy to drive people into bad habits. The Government should proceed with their plans of rural development and improvement of the standard of life of the villagers. I wish the Government had provided more money for these items. The propagandists should carry on propaganda not only among ex-tappers and ex-addicts but also among the Harijans and the poorer sections of the villages. A combination of all these things, as a result of Prohibition, will be giving good returns, though not now, at least some time later. When people are in a prosperous condition, we can even tax them still further. I would only give one or two warnings, and that is there should be a better control of issue of licences. It is even said that we want to save the poor, and that the rich may drink as they like. I ask why should there be a different treatment to the rich? We are coming into a social state. The world trend is towards socialism. Why should there be any difference in treatment between the wealthy and poor people? If drink is bad for the poor, it is bad enough for the wealthy also."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI :—" From the economic point of view, the poorer people have to be shown greater consideration and they have to be saved earlier."

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4 p.m. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—“ I do not deny that. Still there is that argument that the wealthy man drinks and why should he not be prevented from doing so. There is a loose way of talking like this and that is why I give this warning.

“ Another kind of loose talk is that the wealthier men and the higher classes of officers can be given licences. These talks must cease. If Prohibition is to be effective, we have to be very careful that we put a stop to drinking as far as possible.

“ Let me come to another subject in which also I am very interested. That is firka development. There again there has been so much talk that firka development is a white elephant, that money is wasted on it and that Government have thrown nearly four crores of rupees upon this sentimental work. If the people are really interested to find out what this firka development is doing, let them go out into the firkas and find out the work that is being done. A slow revolution is coming in the villages. My only complaint is that the Government are not progressing rapidly and are not making rapid strides, to not only increase the number of firkas, but I would go to the extent of saying ‘ to take up the whole taluks ’. We have this experiment for the last three years and a good deal of experience has been gained. In the light of this experience, they could take up whole taluks. They may even take up a whole district. The rural uplift work can be carried on in the whole district. The work that has been turned out in the firkas is really very great. For example, people have been taught to be self-reliant. People are made to contribute 50 per cent of the expense of road-making. The Public Works Department may draw up an estimate but the people are asked to execute it and their contribution is either in the form of a free gift of land or free labour or money to the extent necessary. So, in the firkas a road which might cost to the Government Rs. 10,000 is made at the cost of Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 5,000. Where the Government has spent Rs. 10,000 on the total expenditure in making the road it is half that of what people can do if they take to it enthusiastically. So, that is a great experiment. This self-reliance is a fundamental reliance. It is only on that that the future happiness of our society in this country can be built up.

“ The Finance Minister has said and it has been often said that if we should introduce compulsory primary education in this State, it will go to an expenditure of Rs. 50 crores, an amount which is equal to the annual total income of this State. At that rate, we shall never reach the time when we shall be able to introduce compulsory primary education leave alone the other questions, the health problem and rural electrification, etc. All these problems cannot be solved in the way we have been doing. Firka development is an attempt to make the society stand on its own legs. The Panchayat Bill has been introduced. It is a measure towards attempting to make the villager stand on his own strength. It is only through that that we can build up the future of our villages. It can never be built up by the Government subsidizing or running all the schools with the income that

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is derived from the people by the Government. This experiment has been going on and has to be extended and it is only along that line that the future prosperity of this State lies. Therefore, the Government, instead of listening to the criticisms of the people, should take courage in their hands and go ahead with these plans which Gandhiji has drawn up. That takes me to the other question of basic education. Much criticism has been levelled, many questions have been put in the Assembly, adjournment motions have been moved on the matter, but still we have not moved very far in this direction. We have not succeeded in placing before the public a scheme of compulsory primary education for the whole State. Though we have been trying to have a ten or fifteen years' plan, we are not able strongly and boldly to fix that in the first year we shall achieve so much, in the second year so much and so on. There also comes again the question of basic education. The Government say definitely that they are wedded to the question of basic education. Whenever we put questions, the Government say that it is their policy to introduce basic education in the schools in the State. But there is no very serious attempt or definite planning in this respect. There is a good deal of sabotaging, if I may use that term. The system of education to which our people have been wedded has become obsolete in this country and other countries are now adapting basic education. Even in America there is an enthusiasm to introduce basic education as in this country. So, other countries are interested in it. But we are still adhering to the old system. People who are adhering to the old system are trying to sabotage this basic education system. I would emphasize very strongly that Government should take courage into their hands and put forth an effective scheme. One of the proposals is that they should be able to appoint a special board for basic education which should be not merely advisory in nature but should be capable of advancing the system of basic education in this country. Serious attempts should be made to select big centres or a big area like a taluk or district and put there all the available basic trained teachers for service. If the experiment fails, let it be given up. But it is not good to simply say that the policy of the Government is to introduce basic education. All I can say is that basic education is the only thing that can solve our problem of elementary education, as we would call it in this country. Gandhiji has said and people have been asking 'How can you make the village self-sufficient by the labour of the children?' It is a question of the child producing something useful. It is not something wasteful that the child has to produce. If a child is to spin, it must be able to spin a yard of yarn; it must take pride in it. If a child is to work in a garden, it must be able to grow something that is useful, that is nutritious. All labour that is put forth by the child is used for productive work and by this active work there comes in indirectly what is called self-support. You propose to spend 11 crores on education. If half of that amount or nearly 6 crores is spent upon primary education and if that education creates 20 per cent self-support, to that

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extent we will be increasing the school-going habit of the boys and self-sufficiency of the villages. By this, before the end of ten or fifteen years, we can have all the schools, though not entirely self-supporting, self-supporting at least to a great extent and we can meet the demands of education in the country. These are some of the few broad questions that I would like to place before this House and would ask the Government to take courage in their hands and not to be afraid of criticisms that may be levelled against them, because these will be paying in the long run. I am not saying this as a mere idealist. I am speaking from experience and from that experience I can give you instance after instance as to how we have been able to achieve some results. I should like to give a simple example. After I left the Ministry, I returned to my village. There I found that the villagers had a tank that had been built sixty years ago. In spite of all my attempts to persuade the Revenue Department to take up the repair of the tank, I did not succeed. Then I called for the villagers around, arranged for the collection of Rs. 500 and had the breach closed within one month, and for the first time after the last sixty years they got water into the tank during heavy rains with which the people were happy. When the Government undertook the work, their estimate was Rs. 4,000. Of course, the villagers could not do it as well as the Public Works Department. Anyhow they closed the breach and they had enough water. In the same way we can do many things in the villages. I feel that some of the reforms which are Gandhian ideals should be introduced with earnestness. Now either we consider that the Gandhian ideals are not practical and go along the way we have been going on or we are not earnest to take them up. First we have to take them up and then there will be progress. Otherwise, I do not see any possibility of the villages becoming prosperous once more.

“With these few remarks, I feel that in the course of the years to come, our country will be progressive and the expectations of the people will be fulfilled. That will be the answer to the communism that is rapidly spreading in the country, that is creating so much trouble and that makes it impossible for us to travel safely. When I was travelling in the train yesterday, the train was running slowly and the Express was $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours late. One or two instances of sabotage have created a fear in the country that communism is raising its head. The proper remedy will be to see that the people are satisfied and that the Communists do not get a foothold in the villages. Communism is rampant in the villages where agrarian trouble is prevalent. In Malabar, Tanjore, Godavari delta, etc., communism is fastly spreading because the peasants and workers are discontented. If they are contented, communism cannot raise its head and we can live once more in peace.”

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is a matter for consolation that this year the Hon. the Finance Minister has not chosen to impose any fresh

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taxation and has been able to produce practically a budget which has shown neither a deficit nor a surplus because the small deficit that has been shown will be wiped out by the amount which he expects from the Centre to compensate for the expenditure which this Government would have to meet on account of the merger of the three States in this State. That is something but it is a matter for disappointment that no relief has been given to the people. The people of this State have been groaning under the weight of taxation ever since this Party came to power. That is admitted. The Finance Minister himself says in his speech 'the increase in well-being and prosperity of the people has not been in proportion to the increase in Government expenditure'. But he has not chosen to give the reason for this. He has also given an accurate picture of the condition of the State. While explaining the expenditure on the Police and Jail Departments, he says 'The expenditure has been steadily growing up on account of the general unrest among various sections of the community and the subversive activities of the Communists'. But he has not chosen to give the reason why there is unrest among various sections of the community. If he answers both these points, then the budget will be all right. Therefore, I would like to deal with these two points. Sir, it was widely advertised during the freedom movement that when our country got freedom, this would again become a land wherein milk and honey would flow, that the cost of living would be reduced and the standard of living of the people would be increased. But what is the net result of the administration of the State during these four years? The cost of living has gone up and the Government have not taken any substantial step towards increasing the standard of living of the people. If you go about the villages, you will find a feeling of disappointment and disillusionment in the minds of the people. People who were given high hopes of the future of the country and who were assured that their condition would be improved when freedom was achieved, now find that there is more of poverty in the land, more of distress and insecurity of person and property. Now they ask 'Now we have achieved freedom. Is this only a change from the white bureaucracy to the brown bureaucracy?' After the changeover, they do not find any improvement in their condition. On the other hand, they find that their condition has gone worse. There is no feeling or consciousness among the people that the country has attained swaraj, that they are themselves the masters of the country and that the foreigner has left the country.

" There is a general feeling among the masses that the administration of the country is going on in such a manner that the taxation from year to year is increasing. We find that the economic conditions have not improved. Even for food there is great difficulty. Sir, this country has been an agricultural country from ancient times and still we find that there is scarcity of food. Though we have set a target and though it has been decided that within a year or so the import of foodgrains should be stopped,

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has anything substantial been done to create that condition? Is it possible to stop foodgrain imports absolutely? Have you taken all the necessary measures to effect that condition? My friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, has dealt at length with the working of the Agricultural department. We have not been able to get sufficient return for the amount that is being spent on that department. That is a truism which cannot be denied or contradicted. I may very well say that the ordinary people in the land are not conscious of the achievement of freedom. The cultivator is not able to purchase the barest necessities of life with the income that he gets from the field. The prices of necessities of life have gone up terribly high, but the prices of the foodgrains have not been proportionately increased. On the other hand, there is a proposal to reduce the price of foodgrains on the ground that inflation has to be put down. Before we reduce the prices of foodgrains, we should first reduce the prices of other commodities which are absolutely necessary for the ordinary life of the cultivator. Have you done that? I find that no attempt has been made in this direction. So there is no use attempting to reduce the price of foodgrains only.

"Now, let us take up the question of cloth. It is said that a good deal of mill cloth remains unsold. But the fact remains people are still suffering from want of cloth and housing. If you go to the villages, you will find indifference pervading among the villagers regarding the administration of the country. They are not conscious of the achievement of freedom. They feel, 'What does it matter whether we have Ravana Raj or Rama Raj'. That proverb, that old adage has become very handy with these villagers. They feel that they are not benefited by the change-over, that their conditions have become worse, their poverty has been increased and that their distress has been enhanced since the change-over.

"Again we find the famous Kamadhenu to which a reference has been made by the Finance Minister hanging round the necks of the villagers as a dead-weight. It may be a Kamadhenu for the Hon. Finance Minister. He may have the opportunity and occasion to milk it whenever he likes. But what about the people? What about the Kamadhenu itself? The famished, half-starved Kamadhenu is walking about the villages with sunken and haggard eyes. As against this, the people who painted a very rosy picture about the future of this State, are not themselves suffering from distress and economic conditions. They are not poverty-stricken—I mean the so-called thyagis. What is their condition to-day? They get recompense, rather 'inflated recompense'—I would put inflated recompense within inverted commas—for their so-called sacrifice—I refer to the assignment of lands to these political thyagis. Further, they get import licences and other permits. They therefore have become prosperous in every sense of the word. Not only that, they can approach and influence any officer, with the result that you will find that in places like Mathurai people who do not belong to the party in power are being harassed by the police; some of the members belonging to the party in

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power, whenever they do not like others not belonging to their party, make report about those people to the police and the police on receipt of such reports begin to harass them. This is what we are finding today in very many places. This is the reaction of the common man to this budget.

“ The Hon. Minister has only referred to ‘ the general unrest among the various sections of the community.’ But he has not explained why the general unrest is there; nor has he explained the nature of the unrest. So I am only filling up the gap left by him. Now it is the duty of the Government to see that the unrest is completely removed.

“ So far as the subversive activities of the Communists are concerned, we are one with you, we are one with the Government. We entirely agree with the Government that law and order should be established at any cost and my party has always assisted the Government in every manner possible. There cannot be two opinions on that point. But my submission is that this Government, ever since it came into power, has not been pursuing a proper policy in this matter. The Hon. the Finance Minister himself admits that the well-being and prosperity of the people have not proportionately increased along with the Government expenditure. Why is it so? When we spend money, it should proportionately increase the well-being and prosperity of the masses. The reason for this is that there has been no planning. This Government have been spending money without any previous planning. Mr. Narayana Menon, Deputy Whip, himself has said that there is no planning. If you look at the budget, except the enumeration of certain facts and figures, we do not find any scientific analysis of the position. There is no scientific arrangement and there is no system in this budget. This stands aloof from the previous years’ budgets. If you refer to the last budget speech and see whether there is any relation between this year’s speech and the previous year’s speech, you will find that in very many matters, it stands aloof. This year’s budget speech stands alone and separate. Is this the way to present the budget? We find that ever since the party came into power, there has been no continuity of policy. The Chief Minister and other Ministers have been changing. Along with it, though the party is the same, the policies pursued by the party have also been changing. I am prepared to substantiate my statement with facts. You will find that there is a wide gap between these two—between this year’s budget speech and last year’s budget speech. For instance, in the last year’s budget speech, the Hon. the Finance Minister referred to elementary education. He said that for purposes of basic education, elementary education should be held in abeyance. What he exactly said is, ‘ . . . further extension of compulsory elementary education to new areas should be held in abeyance, until most of the existing schools have been converted into basic schools.’ I would like to know what has happened to this. The present speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister does not throw any light as to what has been done by the Government in pursuance of that

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policy. Is the extension of compulsory elementary education still held in abeyance? When are we going to have complete universal elementary education in this land, especially, when adult franchise is going to come into force when elections are held under the new Constitution? We do not find a single sentence about this matter in the present budget speech. What is the net result of their policy? Have basic schools advanced to such an extent as to permit of extension of elementary education? When are we to reach the goal of universal education in this country?

“ Similarly, in so many other matters, certain policies which were enunciated in last year's budget speech are left severely alone in this year's speech which stands separate. This year's budget speech contains an altogether different story. I want that there should be continuity of policy. We are not able to get sufficient return for the money that we spend, because there is no continuity of policy. The policy of the Government seems to be to take things as they come; there is no planning with the result that there is not sufficient return for the money that is spent. Now, Sir, if there had been proper planning, surely, the Government would have been able to give proper and adequate relief to the people. For example, last year, you said that you have got in view certain schemes regarding the industrial expansion of the country. What has happened to them? The Hon. the Industries Minister had been going about telling people last year that the underground wealth of this Province will be exploited and the Government intend taking steps to tap those resources. If only you can exploit the mine, i.e., our underground wealth, then the economic conditions of the people can be greatly improved. In his budget speech last year, the Hon. the Finance Minister has said—

‘ The Government are alive to the desirability of starting major industries for the production of aluminium, magnesium and ammonium phosphate in this Province. In regard to the aluminium industry, the Government of India have been asked to make arrangements for carrying out detailed analysis of the Salem bauxite deposits, in order to find out the suitability of the mineral for the manufacture of aluminium.’

It has been said that the iron ore in Sandur is the best available in the whole of India and we were assured from time to time, both during question hour and during budget discussion last year, that this Government would see to it that a Steel and Iron Factory would be established in this Province to utilize this ore. When a question was put whether the Government would take upon themselves the responsibility of starting the Iron Factory if the Government of India for any reason could not see their way to establish one in our Province, we were given an assurance that the Madras Government would establish a factory of their own. I want to know what has happened to those assurances. Not a word has been mentioned about that in this year's budget speech. Again we have got the magnesium deposits in Salem district. So many proposals were expressed in last year's budget speech about the industrial development of this State. What has happened to them all?

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“ Then, I come to the lignite deposits found in South Arcot and South Kanara districts. It has been said that thousands of tons of lignite are available there. If the Government take effective measures for the exploitation of these mines, at least the economic condition of the country would be improved considerably. At one time, it was said that lignite coal is not good for commercial use. Recently, in Australia, attempts are being made to use lignite coal for various purposes and it is high time this Government also tries to benefit itself from the experience of Australia and other countries. If lignite can be used for the smelting of the iron ore of Sandur, then the question of distance of coal from iron ore would not arise. I am told that the Steel Consultants who advised the Government of India with regard to the location of the Steel Factory said that though the Sandur iron ore was the best in the country, yet it could not be utilized on account of the fact that coal has to be brought from a long distance and the transport charges would be very great. Can you not use the lignite coal of South Arcot for this purpose? Again, Sir M. Visweswarayya has said that this iron ore can be melted through the medium of electricity. Has this Government given its thought to this matter? There is no doubt that if this Government had been taking steps to exploit the mineral wealth of this country, the economic prosperity of the country would have increased manifold.”

“ Again, Sir, you will find another announcement made in the budget speech of last year. The Hon. the Minister for Finance said—

“ . . . Other important schemes for the next year are the establishment of a Chemical Testing and Analytical Laboratory, the development of sericulture, the starting of a large scale coir factory at Beypore and the purchase of equipment for the Government Oil Factory, Calicut.”

We find nothing mentioned about these matters in this year's budget speech. This shows that there is no continuity of policy and there is no definite system followed in the preparation of the budgets. We expected that the Government would give us a scientific and systematic account of what has taken place ever since the party took over the reins of administration of this State and of what it is going to do in the coming years. But what we actually find now is that the budget is full of statistics only. It is a skeleton without flesh and blood. This is mainly because, as I said last year, of the change in the leadership of the party from year to year and the consequent change in the personnel of the Cabinet. With the change in the leadership and the change in the personnel of the Cabinet, the policy also changes. If we look at the situation obtaining for the last two or three years, we will find that the policies have been varying from time to time. But, now, Sir, since it has been decided that there should be no change in the leadership till the next elections, I hope that the Government will enunciate a definite policy. It is also deplorable that whenever there is a change in the personnel of the Cabinet, there is a redistribution of portfolios resulting in the subjects with which a particular Minister had become conversant by virtue of one or two years' experience, being taken away from him and handed over

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to new people and new portfolios being assigned to him. He has to start afresh in his new office and so also the new-comers. So, these constant changes are causing very great economic loss to the country.

"Sir, as I have said, the Government have no policy and have no plans either. I would give as an illustration a recent event that took place in this House. The other day, I referred to the procedure that should be adopted by this Government in regard to the presentation of budgets before this House. The Hon. the Ministers for Finance and Law immediately stood up and said that they had received orders from the President of India exempting them from observing the provision contained in the Constitution with regard to the presentation of budget this year. I then asked whether this matter was specifically placed before the President . . ."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"A statement was made this morning on this subject."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—"I am quite conscious of that statement. I wanted to know whether this specific matter was placed before the President and his exemption regarding the operation of Article 204 of the Constitution sought. Of course, the Hon. the Minister for Finance has been kind enough to admit that the Government had misunderstood the President's orders and that they related only to the expenditure incurred or to be incurred before 31st March 1950 and would apply only to supplementary grants to be moved this year. Does not this show the amount of indifference and nonchalance with which the Ministers are carrying out their duties? They do not know even the provisions of the new Constitution. They find no time . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"They are over-worked."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—"No. They are indifferent. They do things as they come. They are arm-chair politicians . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"What about yourself?"

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—"But for my pointing out the relevant provision, you would not have taken action to rectify the mistake. (Laughter.) Sir, the assertion by the Hon. the Finance Minister yesterday that the Government had the orders of the President clearly shows how matters are being done in this House. I hope at least now the Government will realize the imperative necessity of having definite procedures laid down. Even hon. Members opposite—the hon. Mr. Narayana Menon in particular—have been dinning into the ears of the Government to have clear-cut policies and well-thought-out plans, and that advice at least should be heeded to, coming as it did from people belonging to their own party."

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“ Sir, with regard to Prohibition, I want to say a word or two. It is now too late in the day to talk about the necessity for or the advisability of having Prohibition. There cannot be two opinions on the necessity for its continuance, and the advantages and the good effects that accrue therefrom. When the Government have introduced such a reform themselves, I am really surprised that a Muslim Member of this House should say that this piece of legislation has resulted in heavy loss to the Government . . . ”

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—“ On a point of personal explanation, Sir . . . ”

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“ I cannot yield. I am not going to yield to the hon. Member. It is really surprising that a Muslim should say that there is a heavy loss of revenue to the Government on account of Prohibition. To Muslims, every pie that is got from liquor or any other like source is *haram*, i.e., prohibited. We are wedded to Prohibition for life. I can understand the Leader of my Muslim friend pleading for rationing of toddy. But I cannot understand a Muslim Member pleading for the postponement of the reform. It may be that the Government is losing several crores of rupees. But I cannot take it as a loss in the strict sense of the word. It is ill-gotten money. It is ill-gotten wealth. It is the blood money of the people. It is wealth built upon the miseries of the poor. So it is but proper that that money is not acquired or touched, it does not matter to me even if it is thrown away into the gutters or into the ocean. It is tainted money.

“ Then, there comes the question of betting on horses. From the beginning—from the year 1946—I have been raising my voice of protest—in fact I was the first to raise this voice of protest—against betting in the race courses in Guindy and other places. Sir, do you not know how many hundreds of families are suffering on account of these races? In the year 1947, when Mr. Prakasam, was the Premier, the income from the races was not taken into account in the budget because it was decided by the Cabinet then that the race courses should be abolished the following year. Later on a Bill was brought in for doing away with betting on horses and it was also passed into law. Sir, when the Bill was being discussed, we raised a point that the Act itself should preserve the date on which it would come into force but the Hon. Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam who sponsored the Bill in this House said that there need be no anxiety or suspicion about the date and assured us that the Government would fix a date soon thereafter. Then there was an air of expectancy about the announcement of the date on which the Act would come into force and then came the announcement that the date would be 1st April 1950. But, alas, what do we hear now? It has been postponed to 1st April 1951. After all, Sir, the income from betting tax is only about 20 lakhs of rupees. What is the estimated income of the Government annually? It is in the neighbourhood of about 55 crores of rupees. Is not this 20 lakhs a pittance compared with the huge revenue of the Government? If the Government think this 20 lakhs is a good

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enough sum which they cannot afford to forego, let them go in for a loan to meet the deficit, or let them draw from the Revenue Reserve Fund. The races are causing the greatest misery to the people to-day. I know the Government have received orders from higher quarters in this matter. But I ask, 'what have you done in the case of Prohibition in respect of which also you received directives?' When the Government have rightly dared to forego as much as 17 crores of rupees, why should they not do away with races also where the financial responsibility is as low as 20 lakhs of rupees only.

"Sir, I come next to medicine. It has been acknowledged by no less an authority than the World Health Organization that the health of the Indian is the poorest in the world. Looked at against this background, the provision made for the improvement of the health of the villager is very meagre. What is the percentage of doctors available in relation to the population of this State? When I speak of doctors I am quite aware of those who practise systems other than allopathy. I am a believer in the Indian systems of medicine. Recently, Sir, I came across a communiqué issued by the Government in which reference was made to modern medicine while speaking about the allopathic systems. This means Indian systems do not come within its purview. I cannot understand the attitude of the Government in saying that our own systems are not modern. I may tell the Hon. the Finance Minister and his Colleagues that I know of very many cases which have been cured by indigenous systems though they were declared incurable by allopaths. Such being the case, I do not know why the Government should fight shy of Indian systems of medicine. In the year 1946-47 when the budget was presented, we were told that five Ayurvedic colleges—which of course include Siddha and Unani also—would be established in five different centres in the Presidency. We were also told that a Research Institute for Indian medicines would also be established. As against these promises, we have only heard that the Indian School of Medicine in Kilpauk has been converted into a college and a Research department has been opened. Nothing is known as to when the five colleges promised would be opened and instead of a Research Institute only a Research department has been opened.

"As regards Bus Transport, Sir, I am still at a loss to know why of all other industries the Bus Transport has been taken over by the Government, when the policy of this Government as well as of the Centre is not to take over industries which have already been developed by private enterprise. If the Government have enough money, let them invest in some new industries and thereby increase the wealth of the State; but they should on no account take over established industries. If the Government notice any defects, draw-backs, etc., in the running of industries established by private enterprise, let them take necessary measures to set right matters.

"Recently a statement appeared in the newspapers that there is a proposal to reduce the number of rickshaws in the State. I do

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not know whether the proposal is going to be given effect to. But, all the same, I would request the concerned Minister to look at this matter in the proper perspective. The rickshaw is the poor man's conveyance. When I say this I refer to the man who pulls it as well as the person who is conveyed in it. There are many who come down to the city in search of employment and if they fail to get any, they take to pulling rickshaws, although a man drawing a man is sentimentally objectionable. What will happen to these poor people if rickshaws are withdrawn? We are already having the unemployment problem before us. If we withdraw these vehicles I am sure we will be adding to the magnitude of the problem. While on this subject, a great hardship that is caused to the poor by the imposition of certain restrictions on passengers in buses comes to my mind. Passengers are forbidden to carry fish or mutton or fowl in buses. I do not know whether any rule is made by the Government in this regard or the conductors are given discretion. Nevertheless, this causes great hardship to the poor. Even if some pieces of mutton are concealed in a piece of cloth and taken in the bus, it is detected by the conductor and the passenger made to get down. Can a man pay eight annas for a rickshaw to carry a piece of mutton or a fish purchased for six annas? Can he afford a journey by rickshaw for six miles or can he walk all the way from Moore Market to Mylapore or Perambur? I would, therefore, request the Hon. the Transport Minister to look into this question and see whether there are any rules prohibiting such things being carried in the buses and if so to cancel such rules."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"What about eggs?"

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—"I do not know the position about eggs. Then again there are the food-carriers bringing food for your servants and clerks working in commercial firms. Some times they are allowed to get in and at other times they are not allowed to get in. There must be some rules as to whether these types of passengers are to be allowed into the buses or not. And again, some of the conductors misbehave very often. You must give them some lessons in manners. There are very many complaints against the conduct of these conductors. If these are to be avoided you must give them some lessons in manners and make them behave better.

"Then, regarding elementary education, I wanted to know whether free and compulsory elementary education has been held in abeyance as was said in the last year's budget speech. The scheme regarding the bifurcation of courses in secondary education is being extended this year also. I come to know that the Government of India has appointed a committee to consider the problem of secondary education. If that committee comes to certain other decisions and if these are to be implemented, what is going to happen to your bifurcated scheme of education? Is it not feasible to keep this in abeyance until the Government of India's committee makes its recommendations and the Government of India comes to a final decision in the matter?

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“ With regard to the contribution to this State from the divisible portion of the income-tax pool we have been crying every day and the Hon. the Finance Minister himself said that he has been fighting with the Government of India for getting a larger share from the divisible pool. The result of the fight has been a reduction by about half a per cent. The Uthara Pradesh or the United Provinces State where the income-tax collection is less than our State's, gets one per cent more than our State whereas ours has been reduced by half a per cent. (Interruption.) They are getting more than what they are entitled to in proportion to the contribution they make to the Central Exchequer in the shape of income-tax. I do not know why our Hon. the Finance Minister should not succeed in his fight with the Central Government. (Interruption.) We are fleeced by these taxes and should we not get at least a part of the tax contributed from this Province. We are not rich. They are very rich people and they have the sugar and other big industries. We are poor. Our State is the poorest in the country. Why should a poor man's money be taken and given to a prosperous State? I would appeal to the Hon. the Finance Minister not to rest on his oars and say we have tried our best and we have accepted the Deshmuk award. You must fight and see that we get sufficient resources for our State to which we are justly entitled.

“ Regarding Prohibition, I wish to say one more word. When the Prohibition scheme was introduced in this House, I warned that the juice from the palmyra tree, which is rightly called ‘ Kalpaka Vriksham ’ in Tamil Nad should not be allowed to go to waste. The sweet juice is being converted into jaggery in almost every village in Tirunelveli district. During the non-co-operation days attempts were made to cut down the palmyra and coconut trees. Those of us who were in the movement then protested against that action and we did not succeed. Now, Sir, sweet juice could be converted into jaggery and especially when we are suffering from want of sugar, it is a very good substitute. We have been exporting jaggery to Ceylon and other countries, but now certain restrictions have been imposed on the manufacture of jaggery from sweet juice. On account of these, people are put to very great sufferings, as only those who are members of co-operative societies can manufacture jaggery out of sweet juice. I would like to know how many people in the villages are members of co-operative societies and even know the words ‘ co-operative society ’ and how is it possible for them to become members of the societies first and then do the work? I would appeal to the Government to relax the restrictions in regard to that matter. If you think that it would lead to illicit distillation, you should provide the necessary machinery to find it out and punish the culprits severely. It does not mean that you should restrict or prevent the manufacture of jaggery from sweet juice. I am not afraid of these illicit distillations. There will be ever so many cases. Under the Indian Penal Code, thefts of property and murder are punishable offences. But still are there no violations of the Penal Code? Are there no magistrates? Are not those people who

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violated the Penal Code sent to jails. Because there are people who are doing all these things, do you say that the Indian Penal Code should be abrogated. Not at all. There will always be people who are evil-minded. On account of that should you abrogate every good measure? Not at all. If there are people who resort to illicit distillation you should take sufficient measures to provide the machinery for detecting the culprits and punish them. With regard to the licences, there is very great complaint that there are cases of abuse. My Friend the Minister for Prohibition was saying 'Let the rich man go to dogs'. That should not be the attitude. He is also a citizen of the State. He must also be forced not to become a victim of the habit unless he is medically certified. Only in *bona fide* cases, the licence should be issued. I am told that a sum of Rs. 500 would fetch a licence."

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—"Not even Rs. 5,000."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"I request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and prevent the abuse of the licensing system."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"In the whole Province only about 134 licences have been issued."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"In regard to the Firka development there was a reference in the last year's budget speech that the schemes for cottage industries were found to be almost unworkable. It is in paragraph 17 of last year's Budget speech. It was said 'The Government have accordingly decided to help the villagers including artisans and ex-trainees to form themselves into co-operative societies, partnerships or limited concerns, for the purpose of developing six basic industries, namely, black-smithy, wood-work, pottery, leather goods manufacture, light metal casting and sheet metal work. Government have also decided to convert the 40 demonstration and training units formed under the scheme of 1946 into improved production centres as soon as the present course of training is over in each and to hand over the tools and equipment at the centres to co-operative societies, partnerships or limited concerns that may be formed in the areas'. I want to know what has happened to it. There was a talk of extensive and intensive rural development. What has happened to that? Has it been left severely alone? Has some other chapter commenced? That is why I say, Sir, there is no continuity of policy, there is no plan, with the result that we are stranded everywhere in difficulties and the resources of the country are not sufficiently developed and used."

"Coming to Industries, Sir, fortunately the Hon. Minister for Industries is here. I want to impress on him the plight of the hand-loom weavers. You know, Sir, that the hand-loom industry is the most ancient cottage industry of the Province and thousands are earning their livelihood through this industry. You also know that this industry has survived more as a result of foreign exports than on account of internal consumption. As an instance, I

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would like to point out that during 1942 as a result of Japanese aggression on Burma and Malaya the export of hand-loom products to Burma and Malaya was stopped. The hand-loom weavers became seriously affected and the Government even found the necessity of giving them relief under the Famine Code. Now again the hand-loom weavers have been thrown in the same plight. The budget refers to certain schemes in some districts like Salem and other places but so far as Tirunelveli is concerned, I find that scheme has not been introduced."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"The scheme has been introduced there also."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"Perhaps it is in the course of being introduced."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"It has been introduced recently."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"A deputation from Melappalaiyam waited on the Hon. Minister and placed before him these difficulties. I would, however, like to point out one or two matters with regard to the position of weavers in centres like Melappalaiyam in Tirunelveli district. The people there are in great distress."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"Famine relief is being given."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"I am glad the Hon. Minister has taken steps to give famine relief for these people. I want to refer to one more point, that is about the yarn. There is a complaint that for the past two years they have not been able to get yarn of 20 counts which alone they are accustomed to use in their looms."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI:—"This also has been attended to."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM:—"I am glad that all the points I wanted to raise on this issue have been forstalled by the Hon. Minister, and everything has been attended to. I think it is the result of the deputation which waited on the Hon. Minister two weeks ago. (Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'And in anticipation of Budget speech'.) I know about the deputation. I am glad. I don't want to take personal credit. I am only anxious that the sufferings of the poor people should be alleviated. I thank you, Sir."

* JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. There has been a mischievous misrepresentation of the facts regarding my views about Prohibition. Referring to this question, I said at the very outset that I am a confirmed believer in the policy of Prohibition. But when the object is threatened to be defeated and at the same time enormous revenue lost and people burdened with taxation, I said it was

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high time that the Government bestowed their serious consideration on the matter. This I said at the very beginning and I am a believer in Prohibition. I strongly deprecate the mentality which has the ingenuity to put an interpretation upon my words which they in fact, do not bear. This very Member at the end of his speech has gone much beyond what I said and advocated caution in the grant of permits and thereby connived at getting tainted money.

"The hon. Member and the House must remember that under the pretext of making palmyrah jaggery they get permits and use them for drawing toddy. So many licences have been cancelled on this account in many villages and towns. Last time I found that a number of permits were cancelled in Chingleput district on this account." 6 p.m.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The hon. Member cannot make a second speech."

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—"I only want to show that under the pretext of making jaggery, they misuse the permits."

* JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—"I want to say only one word, Sir. I only objected to the statement that there was loss of money to the Government. I say that it is tainted money and when it is not got, we should not say that there is loss of money. The seventeen crores of rupees represented ill-gotten wealth and no Muslim should call it loss of money."

"With regard to permits, I have been warning the Government not to issue permits, because what is good for the poor man is also good for the rich man. I never compromised on this question of Prohibition. I have not at all misunderstood the hon. Member. What he said is on record."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 11 a.m. tomorrow."

The House then adjourned.

